A Chinese business licence, field by field.

What each line tells you before you pay a deposit.

And what it doesn't.

Swipe →

统一社会信用代码
Unified Social Credit Code

THE QUESTION IT ANSWERS

Which company is this, exactly?

18 characters. One code, one company.

Use the code, not the name, for every lookup. Names translate in different ways; the code doesn't.

It's what the register shows the company's status under.

名称

Registered name

THE QUESTION IT ANSWERS

Is this the company on my quote, contract and bank details?

In Chinese only. It's the only name the register knows.

A different name is a different company, even in the same building.

An English name on a card or website is one the company chose.

类型 · 法定代表人

Type · Legal representative

THE QUESTION IT ANSWERS

Who stands behind this company?

Type: a limited liability company or a joint-stock company. The bracket after it says who owns it: natural persons, a company, or foreign investment.

Legal representative: the person who signs for the company. Not necessarily the owner.

有限责任公司 = limited liability · 股份有限公司 = joint-stock

经营范围
Business scope

THE QUESTION IT ANSWERS

Is it registered to make what I'm buying, or only to trade it?

Licensed items need a separate permit. General items don't.

"Manufacture of ..." means registered to manufacture. It doesn't prove a production line.

许可项目 = licensed items · 一般项目 = general items

注册资本 · 成立日期

Registered capital · Date of establishment

THE QUESTION IT ANSWERS

How long has it existed, and what did its owners commit?

Registered capital is the amount shareholders committed. It isn't cash on hand.

The date of establishment is when the company was registered.

Paid-in capital is a separate record.

What the licence does NOT tell you.

Status today

Active, struck off, or on the list of abnormal operations? That's in the register, not on the paper. A licence photo from 2019 says nothing about 2026.

Factory or trader

The scope lists what the company may do, not what it does.

Certificates

None appear on the licence. They're with the bodies that issued them.

Look up the 18-character code in the register:
gsxt.gov.cn (in Chinese)
or send us the code on WhatsApp.