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# IDFL NEWS

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## International IDFB Test Methods Approved

During the Prague IDFB Annual Meeting, final versions of new IDFB testing methods were approved.

Both the USA and the European Union have agreed to use these or very similar test methods. Japan is reviewing future changes to JIS to comply with the new world-wide methods.

## TURBIDITY and OXYGEN TESTING

The preparation of water solution for both turbidity and oxygen number have been standardized. Briefly, the new method requires the following:

- 2L Plastic Jar
- 10 grams down & feather
- 1L grade 3 quality water
- Horizontal shaker (150 spm)
- 30 minutes shaking time
- Glass Filter (size 160)

The details of measuring turbidity and oxygen number have also been standardized.

Please contact IDFB or IDFL for exact details.

## SPECIE TESTING

Previous inaccurate specie testing methods have been replaced by the new IDFB Specie Testing Method.

This new method requires the microscopic evaluation of all feathers in a 1 gram feather sample and all downs in a 0.1 gram down sample.

Several years of research show that testing all pieces in a specific weight is more accurate than testing a certain number of pieces. Double testing further increases accuracy.

Please contact IDFB or IDFL for details of the new method.

## TUMBLE DRY CONDITIONING FOR FILL POWER TESTING

After years of research, the tumble dry conditioning method has proven to more accurately measure fill power of finished products and down bales after shipping or compression.

The tumble dry conditioning method mimics the normal consumer care of down products. Normal use and care of down products help return fill power to the original value.

Down samples are tumbled in a

## 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City

Salt Lake City will host the 2002 Winter Olympics February 8-24, 2002. IDFL is located just 2 km from the Olympic Stadium. The ski resorts and ice arenas are all within 30 minutes of our office.

A few facts about the 2002 Winter Olympics:

1. Salt Lake City is the largest city ever to host the winter games.
2. Utah mountains receive 500 inches (1200 cm) of snow per year.
3. 1.6 million tickets have been sold for the events.
4. The 1.5 billion dollar budget is balanced and on target.
5. The Salt Lake Olympic games have no government subsidies.
6. Utah's 2002 winter has been the best for skiing in 20 years.
7. The Olympic Stadium holds 50,000 spectators.
8. IDFL's Andrea Morrow will dance in the Opening Ceremony.
9. IDFL's Wilford Lieber Sr. is a host for the Swiss Olympic Team.

Please visit IDFL if you are coming to the 2002 Winter Olympics and remember to bring your down jacket (It is very cold!)

home dryer/tumbler for 30 minutes before the normal 3-day conditioning. Please contact IDFB or IDFL for details.

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### UPDATE ON NEW USA LABELING STANDARDS

The USA labeling standards are now effective. Compliance is generally good with a few exceptions. Key points of the new standards:

1. Members of the American Down Association (ADA) have agreed to follow the standards nationwide.
2. The FTC expects the labeling standards to be used nationwide -- even in states where no

labeling laws exist.

3. The FTC has stated in writing that the standards apply to both bedding and garments (jackets, etc.)
4. Some states plan on compliance testing from retail stores during 2002.
5. The accepted test methods for compliance with the new standards are the IDFB official test methods.

### NTU TURBIDITY UNIT

IDFB is evaluating automated turbidity meters. IDFL and other labs use the LaMotte 2020.

We have completed over 1,000 comparison tests. We now

report turbidity in both mm and NTUs. The approximate conversion of mm to NTU is:

700 mm = 4.0 NTU  
500 mm = 6.0 NTU  
300 mm = 10.0 NTU  
100 mm = 30.0 NTU

### UPDATE ON NEW EUROPEAN LABELING STANDARDS

The new European standards are now used in several countries.

The European Down and Feather Association (EDFA) has an excellent web site on European standards: [www.edfa-mainz.de](http://www.edfa-mainz.de)

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The German Down and Feather Association also has a superb web site -- [www.vdfi.de](http://www.vdfi.de)

Eventually all of the following countries will use the standards:

Austria	Italy
Belgium	Luxembourg
Czech Republic	Netherlands
Denmark	Norway
Finland	Portugal
France	Spain
Germany	Sweden
Greece	Switzerland
Iceland	United
Kingdom	
Ireland	

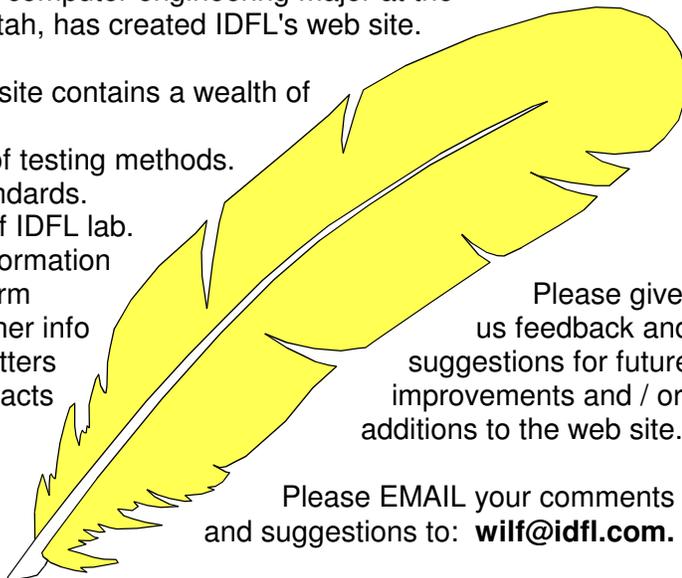
### Spotlight -- IDFL's WEB SITE

IDFL has published its company web site -- [www.idfl.com](http://www.idfl.com)

Peter Lieber, a computer engineering major at the University of Utah, has created IDFL's web site.

The IDFL web site contains a wealth of information

- Description of testing methods.
- Labeling standards.
- Virtual tour of IDFL lab.
- Research information
- Submittal Form
- Down & feather info
- IDFL Newsletters
- Industry contacts
- Down facts
- Down quiz



Please give us feedback and suggestions for future improvements and / or additions to the web site.

Please EMAIL your comments and suggestions to: [wilf@idfl.com](mailto:wilf@idfl.com).

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