
IDFL NEWS

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AD&FS Reaffirms USA Labeling Standards

On October 11, 2002, the American Down and Feather Section of HFPFA reaffirmed its position that all down and feather products sold in any state of the USA should use the new labeling standard.

(To avoid confusion with old standards, IDFL will always refer to the new labeling laws as the “**USA-2000 Standard**”)

The new labeling standard was developed in 1999 by ABFLO (Association of Bedding and Furniture Law Officials) and adopted by the old American Down Association. California first implemented the new standard in 2000.

The FTC has stated that the **USA 2000 Standard** meets their criteria for down and feather labeling.

Also, the FTC states that the new criteria for labeling must be followed for jackets & other garments as well as bedding.

GOOD NEWS FOR LORCH CUSTOMERS

Mr. Hermann Pfrommer has announced a succession plan to provide for continued production and support of Lorch machines.

1. *Production Machinery will be taken over by KOVACS in Mako, Hungary.*
2. *Filling Machines will be handled by GRAUFF GmbH in Bretten-Gölshausen, Germany.*
3. *Refurbishing of machines will be handled by former Lorch employees Heinz Bindewald and Dieter Neuner,*
4. *Fill Power Test Meters will be handled by Mr. Dieter Neuner*

THREADCOUNT CONTROVERSY

High threadcounts of 2-ply yarns have become a controversy during 2002 culminating in discussion on ABC's Good Morning America November 22, 2002.

Industry and government have commented on the subject:

1. *The ASTM standard method for threadcount (D3775) counts 2-ply yarn as one unit.*
2. *The American Textile Manufacturer's Institute (ATMI) states that counting 2-ply yarn as 2 threads “..would be false and misleading...”*
3. *The FTC began an investigation into high threadcounts, but closed the case when the company involved changed the label from “760 threadcount” to “finely woven 380 2-ply fabric”.*

ABFLO Information

ABFLO's annual meeting will be March 5-8, 2003 in New Orleans. The Association of Bedding and Furniture Law Officials (ABFLO) developed the USA-2000 Standards for Down and Feathers.

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Please find additional information at ABFLO's Website: abflo.org

IMPORTANT WEB SITES FOR DOWN AND FEATHER INFORMATION

Many excellent web sites exist that can help in understanding feather and down labeling standards and testing procedures.

www.idfb.org

The International Down and Feather Bureau (IDFB) has an excellent web site with a wealth of information about the history and status of the industry.

Mr. Siegfried Böhler is IDFB's president. Mr. Wilhelm Jaxthaimer, IDFB executive

secretary, managed the development of the web site.

www.edfa-mainz.de

The European Down and Feather Association (EDFA) offers a great website on general and European topics such as EN label standards.

Mrs. Julianne Hedderich, EDFA manager, organized the development of this web site.

Ib Fagerlund of Denmark is the current EDFA president.

the USA

William Cale, president of ABFLO, developed this site.

www.cfd.com.cn

The China Feather and Down Industrial Association (CDFIA) has a superb web site. The site is in both English and Chinese and includes links to many other Chinese enterprises.

Mr. Xu Yong is the Chairman of CFDA and Ms. Yao Xiaoman serves as the Secretary-General.

www.abflo.org

The Association of Bedding and Furniture Law Officials (ABFLO) has a great web site about the regulation of bedding products in

www.idfl.com

Our company website includes a variety of information about down and feather topics including:

- Testing method descriptions.
- Virtual tour of IDFB office.
- Research studies.
- Labeling information.

Peter Lieber, IDFL webmaster, is completing a church service mission in New York for 2 years. Darren Corey and Chris Morrow will handle the web site until Peter's return.

Spotlight -- IDFL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Many people are available to help customers with questions

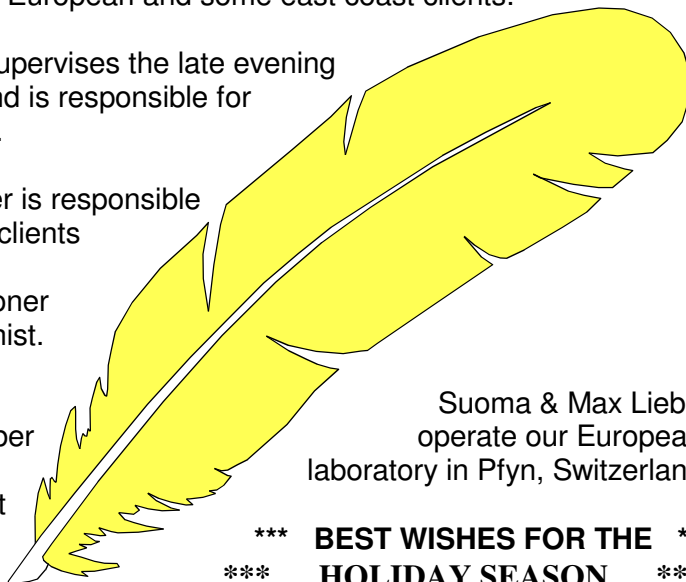
Shauna Linde supervises the daily testing effort. She is also responsible for European and some east coast clients.

Eneli Woods supervises the late evening testing work and is responsible for clients in ASIA.

Rachel Kasteler is responsible for many USA clients

Dee Van Wagoner is our receptionist.

Susan Morrow and Kristin Lieber will help you with all account and payment questions..



Suoma & Max Lieber operate our European laboratory in Pfyn, Switzerland.

*** BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON ***

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER OR OTHER IDFL SERVICES PLEASE CONTACT:

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