



Avian Flu Update

Because of the recent cases of avian flu, IDFL offers the following information:

Are down and feathers safe?

Yes, down and feather products are safe. Down and feather finished products have never had any risk. Down and feathers do not provide a live host for the virus. Down and feathers are cleaned at 120°C for 30 minutes. Any of the 30+ strains of bird flu or other viruses are destroyed at a much lower temperature in just a few minutes.

What is the impact on price and supply?

Down and feather prices were high before the current avian flu episode. The avian flu problem caused a major and immediate spike in prices as flocks of ducks and geese were culled and some suppliers held on to feather stock. The price of 90/10 White Duck Down has already risen by 60%+ since March 2013 according to the China Feather and Down Industrial Association (CFDIA). Supplies will be extremely tight for the next few months.

Will my shipments be delayed?

Some shipments may be delayed. Some countries may temporarily ban raw bulk down and feathers. Other countries may require additional documentation and/or cleanliness certifications. Finished products do not have any government bans or restrictions. All of the delays should be temporary.

Because of the general shortage of material before bird flu, some suppliers do not have the needed down supply.

What is the future prognosis for the situation?

Governments in Asia are reacting swiftly to isolate the human risk and re-start poultry production in affected areas as soon as possible. Chinese poultry consumption has dropped temporarily. Most experts believe the situation will be normalized by summer.

As more information becomes available, IDFL will send out further information. If you have any questions about avian flu, contact info@idfl.com

IDFL Calendar

- June 16-18: IDFB Annual Meeting, Taiwan
- July 11-16: Outdoor Show, Friedrichshafen, Germany
- July 30 – Aug 3: Outdoor Retail Show, Salt Lake City, USA

For more information contact info@idfl.com

Taiwan IDFB Meeting

In connection with the upcoming IDFB meeting in Taiwan in June, IDFL Taiwan will be offering a series of seminars and lab tours at our Taipei office. They will be offered according to the following schedule:

Friday, June 14 th	13:00 ~ 16:00
Saturday, June 15 th	13:00 ~ 16:00
Tuesday, June 18 th	13:00 ~ 16:00
Wednesday, June 19 th	9:00 ~ 12:00

Lab tours are available at any time June 13-21.

If you are interested in attending please contact IDFL at taiwan@idfl.com no later than May 15th, 2013.

Updated Downproof Test for Outerwear

IDFL announces a new procedure for verifying the downproofness of finished jackets, vests or prototype panels. The new method will give much more detail information to help identify whether leakage is from the fabric or the seams.

The revised test method can also work with finished bedding products. Please contact IDFL for details.

Fill-Proof Testing for Synthetics

IDFL has adapted all of the downproof test methods to work with all synthetic fillings and other natural fillings.

IDFL LABORATORY AND INSTITUTE

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www.idfl.com

IDFL

Salt Lake City, Utah
info@idfl.com

IDFL EUROPE

Frauenfeld, Switzerland
europe@idfl.com

IDFL ASIA

Hangzhou: china@idfl.com
Taipei: taiwan@idfl.com