



## Update on Downproof & Testing Methods

Several downproof test methods are available.

- EN 12131-1 Europe Rubbing
- EN 12131-2 Europe Impact
- GB/T 12705.1 China Rubbing
- GB/T 12705.2 China Rotating Box
- GB/T 14272 China Rubbing (Outerwear)
- Int'l Rotating Box (Modified FTMS or IDFL-20)
- Japan Outerwear (Dryer)

### New IDFL Downproof Submittal Form

Please click below to link to the new submittal form

[IDFL SSF Downproof & Fillproof](#)

### Minor Change in Rotating Box Rating System

In the past, feathers and fibers and down clusters were counted separately and then used separately to determine the rating. This rating system was confusing to many buyers and labs.

IDFL has updated the rating system to combine all escaping particles. Below is the new rating system:

Number of Total Particles Escaped or Protruding	Rating
0-5	5
6-11	4
12-22	3
23-33	2
34 +	1

### New options for Downproof/Fillproof Testing

IDFL has added many new options to downproof testing for clients. These include:

- **Glue Seams Option** - To reduce the possible leakage from a sewn downproof or fillproof test pillow, IDFL can glue the seams.
- **Density Option** – The “standard” filling weight for the various downproof test pillows may not

## Fillproof Testing for Synthetic Fillings

The testing of fabric and finished products for “fillproofness” is required by many buyers to determine leakage of natural and synthetic fillings.

The European (EN) and China (GB) test methods are designed for down fillings only. However, they could be used “unofficially” for non-down fillings.

The Rotating Box Method (IDFL Test Method 20) is designed for BOTH down and other fillings. These include polyester, wool, silk, cotton, and other synthetic and natural down fillings.

The IDFL Downproof/Fillproof Test Method is specifically designed for polyester and other fillings.

- IDFL can test any type of filling using the IDFL Test Method 20.
- The fillproof test method used the identical machine and procedure as the modified FTMS downproof test method

## Finished Product Downproof or Fillproof Test Method

IDFL has tested over 500 jackets and vests with this new test method.

This method gives clients the following information:

- Performance of entire finished product
- The outer shell and the “inside out” of a jacket are tested separately
- Migration/leakage from 3 sources are listed separately: actual fabric, channel stitching, and inter-panel seams.

Please contact IDFL for details. See new Sample Submittal Form for Downproof & Fillproof Testing.

reflect the actual filling density in the finished product. Clients can choose a specific GSM of filling weight or request that IDFL test according to the GSM of a finished product.

- **Washing Options** – Clients have many washing and dry cleaning options.

**Tips for increasing value of the downproof test**

- Downproof testing should be done before and after washing. This simulates both consumer use as well as home washing of products. Many fabrics and constructions work fine before washing, but fail after washing.
- Test with filling material that will actually be used in final product construction
- If fabric will be used with multiple qualities of down, each quality should be tested separately. Some down and feather qualities will give better or worse downproof results for the same fabric.

## **IDFL Calendar**

April 16-17: CFDIA/IDFL Seminar, Nanjing

Apr 30-May 2: IABFLO Meeting, Columbus, Ohio

June 8-10: IDFB Meeting, San Francisco, California

June 22-24: ASTM Meeting, Toronto, Canada

July 2: Down & Feather Seminar, Seoul Korea

July 10-13: Friedrichshafen Outdoor, Germany