



# COFFIN TESTING REGULATORY GUIDANCE

From the Funeral Furnishing  
Manufacturers Association (FFMA)

The FFMA testing protocol offers a testing package which ensures coffins are suitable for cremation in both transportation and during cremation. Intertek offers Total Quality Assurance by substantiating product claims with expertise in testing standards and flammability.



## OUR TESTING SERVICES

**By testing to the FFMA protocol manufacturers can ensure their coffins are up to the highest standard and Intertek offer assurance to substantiate these claims.**

Intertek has over 30 years of experience in testing offering Total Quality Assurance. Our testing laboratory in Leicester, UK has an experienced team with a number of individuals each with over 20 years of experience within the industry. Intertek has been involved with the FFMA protocol since its conception helping to form the protocol and from there test the coffins of FFMA members.

### Our Solutions

The FFMA testing protocol offers a testing package which ensures coffins are suitable for cremation in both transportation and during burning in the cremation. The protocol is split into 10 tests across 9 sections simulating to the worse possible extent and beyond, what the coffin may be subjected to during a funeral.

There are no regulatory conditions guiding the strength or flammability of a coffin. However, after identifying an obvious requirement, the FFMA acted to ensure there is an industry standard for their suppliers to aim for and, in many cases, exceed.

### Our Expertise

The FFMA protocol which Intertek carries out contains 6 tests for the physical aspects of the testing, these tests look at the overall strength of the coffin from being stored on trestles to insertion by roller bed, ball bearing bed or by TABO insertion. During the first 5 tests, the coffin is loaded to 1.25 times the recommended maximum load. The final strength test is performed on the handles from which weights starting at 30kg increasing to 50kg are attached to each handle.

Of the remaining 4 tests, 3 are testing the flammability of the coffin ensuring suitability and durability for use as well as safeguarding that the ash produced is not excessive nor filled with unwanted residue.

These tests include:

- Ignition Test
- Ash Test
- Residue Test

The final test is performed on the lining of the coffin. Once all testing is completed by Intertek, manufacturers will then be able to obtain their stamp from the FFMA as a sign of the quality of the coffin.

Discover how Intertek's Total Quality Assurance expertise can help your manufacturing and development process

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**Total Quality. Assured.**