

OFFICE FURNITURE TESTING

Micom Laboratories Inc. specializes in furniture testing; this is our core business. The services we offer encompass all of the ANSI/BIFMA, CGSB, GSA, ASTM standards related to furniture testing as well as mechanical testing of furniture components. Micom is heavily involved with the North American Office Furniture Industry. We are a BIFMA member and make it a point of contributing to the development of the industry standards. Furthermore, we sit on all the CGSB committees related to office furniture. Not only do we know the standards; we sit on the committees that write them.

Accredited by the Standards Council of Canada we have a lot to offer to our customers namely:



- Over eighty years of cumulative experience in Office furniture testing
- Participation on all BIFMA & CGSB standard writing committees.
- CAL TB 133 testing
- 15 000 sq. ft. dedicated to furniture testing.
- ISO 17025 Accredited.
- Prototypes, components and custom testing.
- Comprehensive test plans
- Problem solving.
- Test reports recognized anywhere in North America

TAKE THE GUESS OUT OF THE EQUATION

At Micom we understand your technical and certification challenges and we can support in preparing test plans and test protocol that will get you the end result you need to deliver.

More often than not, you will want to have your office furniture tested in order to be able to bid on a government or similar large contract. If you are developing a new product, testing it prior to its launch may save you the cost and trouble of recalling or fixing defective items. In matters of liability and security, testing your furniture according to a widely recognized, albeit voluntary, standard can help mitigate the case by demonstrating that measures have been taken to ensure the safety of the unit.

The office furniture standards we are accredited to test to are the following:

- ANSI/BIFMA X5.1-2011: Office Chairs
- ANSI/BIFMA X5.3-2007: Vertical Files
- ANSI/BIFMA X5.4-2012: Lounge Seating
- ANSI/BIFMA X5.5-2014: Desk Products
- ANSI/BIFMA X5.6-2010: Panel Systems
- ANSI/BIFMA X5.9-2012: Storage Units
- ANSI/BIFMA X5.11- (draft)
- ANSI/SOHO S6.5-2013: Home office, small office furniture
- ASNI/HFS 100
- CAN/CGSB 44.232-2008: Office chairs
- CAN/CGSB 44.227-2008: Freestanding Desk products
- CAN/CGSB 44.229-2008: Panel Systems
- CAN- Z-412
- GSA FNAE 80-214A
- GSA FNEW 83-269E



At Micom, we do our best to simplify the furniture testing process. The best way to proceed is to send us your detailed price list (or any similar document which contains all units and unit sizes). We will then discuss with you what units are to be qualified, or which sections should be omitted. For example, you might want your desks to be tested, but not your conference tables, or vice-versa. We will then ask you a few questions on the construction of your units. A quote is then prepared and submitted. Once an agreement has been reached, you will receive the bill of material and test plan.

Once testing has begun, on large projects, you will receive a weekly update. If any failures occur, you will be advised by phone and/or email on the same day. Pictures of the failures, when appropriate, are sent, at no extra charge. Resolution of the failure can then proceed. We also have video capabilities. With our web cam, you can ask to witness a critical test, or receive more information on a failure from the comfort of your office with the ease of using your web browser. Once testing has been completed, test reports will be issued and sent by mail.

Micom can help you assess the durability of a wide range of office furniture. From chairs, desks, panel systems, theatre seats to storage units and folding tables, our over 80 years of expertise in the field of furniture and material testing makes us a choice partner in the evaluation of your products.

Micom offers a responsive service, accurate test results and a high level of expertise at competitive prices

We offer a scientific approach to your day-to-day problems.



Beyond Furniture Testing

MATERIAL TESTING SERVICES:

Micom Laboratories Inc. offers routine and non-routine material testing for a wide range of materials and products. Whether it is for temperature and humidity cycling, ultraviolet exposure, surface finishes, packaging testing and optimization, mechanical properties, our material testing experts will be happy to help you put together a meaningful test plan that will address your needs and give you real answers. With years of specialized technology testing expertise, in-depth experience and absolute commitment to customer care, our team of experts does more than simply test your products. Micom Laboratories Inc. strives to deliver material testing services of outstanding value to our diverse customer base.

SPECIFIC MATERIAL TESTING SERVICES:

Micom offers a wide variety of mechanical and physico-chemical material testing according to various standards (ASTM, CGSB, ISTA, ANSI, CSA others). Our specialists can also provide you with custom material testing services focused on your specific needs.

Our facilities allow us to test a wide range of raw materials and finished products. Whether you need temperature chain testing, consumer products, composite materials, or accelerated ageing Micom's staff is always available to support your technical needs.

Our facilities are also equipped to test prototypes, simulate intensive use of products and materials either to validate your design or investigate a field failure. Our quality control system complies with ISO 17025.

THE TEST METHODS AND SERVICES OFFERED INCLUDE:

Corrugate and Honeycomb Testing:

- Taber Abrasion (T 426)
- Board Analysis (T 410)
- Board Quality Analysis (T 410)
- Board Thickness (T 411)
- Boat Method (T 819)
- Burst (Mullen) (T 807,810)
- Cobb
- Coefficient of Friction (T 815)
- Construction
- Edge Crush Test (T 811)

- Flat Crush (T 825)
- Float Curl (T 832)
- Manufacturer's Joint Tensile Test (T 813)
- Moisture Content at Equilibrium (T 412)
- Pin Adhesion (T 821)
- Score Quality Test (T 829)
- Tear Resistance (T 414)
- Tensile Strength (T 494)
- Thickness (T411)
- Water Absorption of Corrugated Medium
- Water Drop (T 835)

MATERIAL PROPERTIES:

- Tensile Strength (ASTM D-638, D-1623, D-2990, D-5574)
- Compressive Strength (ASTM D-695, D-2990, D-4762)
- Flexural Strength (ASTM D-790, D3043, D-5616)
- Foam (ASTM D-3574)
- Latex gloves (ISO-10282 & 11193)
- Moisture Absorption (ASTM D-570)
- Particle Board Testing (ASTM D-1037)
- Specific Gravity (ASTM D-792)

CLIMATE EXPOSURE:

- Climatic chambers (Humidity, temperature cycling)
- (-73°C à +150°C, 10 – 95% RH)
- Weatherometry, U.V. exposure (ASTM G 155)
- Salt spray (ASTM B-117)
- Accelerated temperature ageing
- Laboratory simulations of field failures
- Thermal shocks
- High and low temperature tensile and compression tests
- Long term exposure for stability studies



OTHER SERVICES AND TESTS:

- Various flammability tests
- Computer data acquisition and control
- Custom testing
- Research and development
- Other ASTM test methods
- Scientific expertise and consulting services