

A row of colorful t-shirts hanging on wooden hangers from a metal rack. The t-shirts are in various colors including yellow, orange, red, blue, and green. The hangers are light-colored wood and are suspended from a silver metal bar. The background is a plain, light color.

**Intertek**

Valued Quality. Delivered.

## Textile, Apparel & Garment Testing

*Tailoring quality and safety into  
every design*



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## Your Challenges

With ever changing government regulations on textiles and apparel, how do you ensure full compliance throughout your global supply chain? With consumers increasing demand for higher quality apparel and garments, who can you turn to for precise regulatory, performance and safety testing at rapid speed?

## Our Solutions

With over 1,000 offices and laboratories in over 100 countries, Intertek has unparalleled knowledge and expertise on all global regulations and trends, providing innovative testing, inspection, and certification services to meet your needs including:

### Regulatory Testing

**Fiber Identification** - Most countries importing apparel and other textile products require fiber identification labels that indicate the fiber type and percentage of fiber components. Some countries even use fiber composition to classify quota categories. Intertek maintains a staff of experienced technicians who can accurately identify fibers and fiber blends, including specialty fibers such as cashmere.

**Feather and Down Testing** - Intertek provides a variety of tests for quantitative analysis, filling power, thermal properties, migration and penetration resistance.

**Flammability Testing** - For apparel, it is especially important that the materials used are in full compliance with the flammability regulations. In particular, adult apparel and children's sleepwear have specific requirements that must be met before importing or selling products.

**Care Label Instructions** - Many countries have mandatory or voluntary standards for care label instructions on apparel and garments. Intertek conducts the following tests to determine the most appropriate care conditions for each product:

- Colorfastness to washing or dry cleaning
- Colorfastness to bleaching
- Dimensional stability
- Appearance retention
- Ironing, if needed

### Performance Testing

A variety of tests are offered to meet specific performance standards, including, but not limited to:

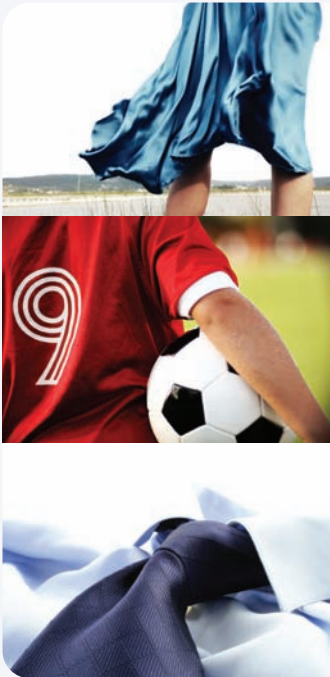
- Dimensional stability to washing and/or dry cleaning
- Colorfastness to light, crocking (rubbing), washing, bleaching, etc.
- Physical tests - strength, abrasion, piling resistance, etc.
- Chemical tests - finish analysis, pH, etc.

### Eco-Textile Testing

The trend of green consumerism has been extended to textile and apparel products. Intertek provides a comprehensive spectrum of eco-testing which targets environmental protection and/or consumer health and safety. Chemical analysis for eco-testing includes:

- Azo Dyes (Banned Carcinogenic Amines)
- Chromium VI
- Extractable Heavy Metals
- Formaldehyde Content
- Pentachlorophenol (PCP)
- Pesticide Residue
- Total Cadmium Content
- Total Lead Content





## Technical Consultation and Training

In addition to testing and inspection services, Intertek provides various technical training and consultation services. Up-to-date technical information is shared with clients through:

### Consultation

- Assistance in developing and/or revising Quality Assurance Programs and product specifications
- Assistance to develop, monitor and/or improve manufacturing processes
- Assist with fault-finding and problem solving

### Training

- On or off-site technical seminars on regulation and product standards, basic textile and apparel information, textile testing, labeling, etc.

## Guidelines for Selection of Quality Performance Tests for Major Types of Apparel

	Test Item / Apparel	Shirt, Blouse	Sport Shirt, T-Shirt	Trousers	Dress, Skirt	Jacket, Blazer, Coat, Suit	Skiwear, Anorak, Rainwear	Underwear, Lingerie, Nightwear	Sweatshirt, Knitwear	Swimwear	Lining	Accessories	
Mandatory Testing	Fiber Labeling	Fiber Analysis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Flammability	Flammability Test (1)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Care Labeling	Dimensional Stability - Washing or Dry Cleaning (2)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		- Steaming (3)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Colorfastness - Washing or Dry Cleaning (2)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		- Hot Pressing (4)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		- Chlorine Bleach	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		- Non-chlorine Bleach	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Appearance After - Washing or Dry Cleaning (2)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	CPSIA (For Children's Products)	Lead in Paint and Similar Surface Coating	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lead in Substrate		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Quality & Performance Testing	Colorfastness Tests	Rubbing / Crocking	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
		Light							X		X	X	
		- 10-hr exp / 10 AFU's	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	
		- 20-hr exp / 20 AFU's									X		
	- 40-hr exp / 40 AFU's										X		
	Perspiration	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
	Water	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
	Chlorinated Water									X			
	Sea Water									X			
	Strength Tests	Tensile Strength (5)	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Tearing Strength (5)		X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Seam Properties (5)		X		X	X	X	X			X	X		
Bursting Strength (6)		X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		
Seam Bursting Strength (6)		X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		
Bonding Strength of fused color		X											
Other tests	Pilling Resistance	X	X	X	X	X			X		X		
	Abrasion Resistance	X		X	X	X							
	Spray test					X	X						
	Appearance Retention Rating (7)	X		X	X								

Notes:

- (1) Flammability -  
 USA/Canada : Children's sleepwear and other wearing apparel  
 UK / Ireland : Children's nightwear  
 Australia / NZ : Children nightclothes  
 Netherlands : All wearing apparel and nightwear  
 Norway : All wearing apparel
- (2) Either washing or dry cleaning procedure is performed  
 (3) For Canada only  
 (4) For ISO and Canada

- (5) Woven articles only  
 (6) Knitted articles only  
 (7) Permanent press finished articles only



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### About Intertek

Intertek is a leading provider of quality and safety solutions serving a wide range of industries around the world.

From auditing and inspection, to testing, quality assurance and certification, Intertek people are dedicated to adding value to customers' products and processes, supporting their success in the global marketplace.

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