There are various reasons why people are drawn to downhill skiing, some for sheer exhilaration, while others look to it for relaxation. No matter why people participate in the sport, there is an essential piece of equipment that all downhill skiers must use to ensure a safe and enjoyable day on the slopes – ski goggles.

Though the stresses of downhill skiing can take a toll on all parts of the body, the eyes are especially susceptible to damage. Arid winter air can dry the eyeball, leading to irritation and corneal damage. Bright, cloudless skies and miles of white, reflective snow can overwork the iris, leading to fatigue, temporary blindness and even permanent retinal damage. In addition, the dangerous combination of various forms of winter precipitation, low-hanging branches and windblown powder and other debris while descending in high speeds can also place the eyeball at risk of damage.

Our services include:

- Ski goggles testing
- Sunglasses testing
- Reading spectacles testing
The Challenge
Whether participating in downhill skiing as a professional sport or leisure activity, skiers look for goggles that are not only visually appealing, but also provide a good peripheral field of vision, protection against ultraviolet light and impact-resistant frames, to ensure their eyes are protected when hitting the slopes. Manufacturers are challenged to meet consumer demand for attractive, high-quality downhill ski goggles, while also complying the industry standards.

The Solution
With over 1,000 offices and labs in over 100 countries, Intertek is well-equipped with the most advanced and sophisticated testing facilities to evaluate your ski goggles against standard EN 174:2001, Personal Eye-Protection – ski goggles for downhill skiing, which is listed as Class 1 Personal Protective Equipment under the PPE Directive 89/686/EEC.

The following properties are evaluated under this standard:

- Design and manufacture
- Field of vision
- Optical power
- Transmittance
- Scattered light
- Quality of material and surface
- Resistance to ultra-violet radiation
- Mechanical strength
- Protection against water and snow
- Resistance to ignition
- Suitability for cleaning and care

In addition to providing testing services in accordance with national and international requirements, Intertek can assist clients in developing their own product safety and performance specifications for all their needs. Moreover, consultation services are available to assist our clients to upgrade their product quality to essentially strengthen their competitive edge in the global marketplace.

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 customers’ products and processes, supporting their success in the global marketplace.