

Fact sheet

UK Candle Testing Capability

Technical expertise and testing capability at the Leigh Centre of Excellence.

The candle testing laboratory at Intertek's Leigh Centre of Excellence forms part of a wider technical environment designed to bring customers closer to specialist expertise, testing capabilities and product evidence.



The Centre of Excellence supports brands, retailers, manufacturers and importers through testing and assessment activities that provide objective evidence relating to product safety, performance and market requirements. Through a combination of specialist testing capability and practical technical experience, the focus remains on helping customers better understand product performance and build confidence before products reach the market.

Supporting a wide range of candle products and accessories

Different candle formats, constructions and intended uses can present different safety, performance and compliance considerations. As a result, testing requirements are often influenced by product design, materials, intended use and retailer requirements.

Our experts evaluate a broad range of candle products and non-electric candle accessories, including:

- Indoor candle products, including container candles, pillar candles, taper candles, tealights, votive candles, floating candles, wax melts, gel candles and novelty candle formats.
- Outdoor candle products, including outdoor candles, garden torches and other products intended for outdoor use.
- Candle holders and accessories, including candle holders, lanterns, shades, toppers, wax burners and other non-electric accessories.

What we verify and evaluate

Fire safety and burning behaviour

Safety testing forms the core of many candle evaluation programs. Depending on the product type and applicable requirements, activities may include the assessment of stability, flame behaviour, secondary ignition, self-extinguishing performance and behaviour after extinguishing, helping generate evidence relating to the safe use of candle products.

Product safety information and labelling

Evaluation may include review of candle safety information against applicable labelling requirements, together with identification of situations where additional hazard communication requirements, including CLP considerations, may apply.

Soot and smoke-related performance

Assessment may include soot index evaluation together with observations relating to soot formation, smoke generation and other aspects of candle burning behaviour where relevant to the product or market requirements.

Outdoor candles, containers and accessories

Certain product categories may require additional evaluation. This can include assessment aligned to outdoor-use requirements, as well as testing relating to candle holders, lanterns, containers and other accessories. For glass and ceramic designs, thermal-shock and related integrity evaluations may also be relevant.

Performance evaluation and benchmarking

Structured benchmarking activities can support product comparison, supplier evaluation and retailer requirements. Depending on the protocol applied, evaluation may include burn time repeatability, wax-pool behaviour, wick behaviour, club formation, temperature-related observations and other protocol-specific criteria.

Materials, chemistry and toxicological considerations

Through Intertek's wider network, additional services may be available for the evaluation of materials and substances used in candle products, including dyes, coatings, fragrances, additives and other components. This can include chemical testing activities and toxicological assessments delivered by specialist Intertek teams where required.



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Standards, protocols and assessment routes

The testing and assessment activities applied to a candle product depend on its design, intended use, target market and any retailer-specific requirements.

The Leigh Centre of Excellence supports evaluation against relevant candle standards and, where required, retailer-specific protocols used within the consumer goods sector.

Typical examples include:

Product category	Typical standards & methods
Indoor candles	EN 15493
Outdoor candles	EN 17616
Sooting behaviour	EN 15426
Indoor candle labelling	EN 15494
Outdoor candle labelling	EN 17617
Glass containers	BS EN 1183, ASTM C149, ASTM C148
Candle accessories	EN 17885 (where applicable)

Beyond recognised standards, candle products are often assessed against retailer protocols, customer specifications or internally defined performance criteria. These requirements can introduce additional evaluation areas, performance expectations or acceptance criteria that go beyond the scope of published standards.

Discuss your candle testing requirements

Whether you are developing a new product, preparing for retailer requirements or looking to enter a new market, our technical team can discuss the testing capabilities available through the Leigh Centre of Excellence and provide a quotation based on the information supplied.



UKAS-accredited candle testing at Leigh

The Leigh Centre of Excellence was created to bring together technical expertise, testing capability and the evidence customers need to support product decisions. UKAS accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 provides independent recognition of the laboratory competence underpinning this capability.

The current UKAS accreditation scope for candle testing includes:

- BS EN 15493 Candles. Specification for fire safety
- BS EN 15494 Candles. Product safety labels
- BS EN 15426 Candles. Specification for sooting behaviour
- BS EN 17616 Outdoor candles. Specification for fire safety
- BS EN 17617 Outdoor candles. Product safety labels



For more information



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