

TESTING FOR INFANT SLEEP SURFACES

BACKGROUND

International research has identified a correlation between infant mortality and overly soft sleep surfaces. Such surfaces can obstruct an infant's breathing.

Expert advice often specifies a firm sleep surface without quantifying a minimum acceptable firmness. NZWTA Ltd can now conduct testing of infant sleep surfaces in accordance with International Standards to measure the firmness of any product.

APPLICATION

The Standard AS/NZS 8811.1:2013 evaluates the firmness of infant furniture items where an infant may be expected to fall asleep horizontally. Such items mainly relate to mattresses but also include prams, infant cocoons sleep mats, bassinets, carrycots etc. The test measures the indentation of the sleep surface using apparatus that simulates an infant's head.

The test is not applicable to slings, hammocks and other devices that support an infant by suspension.



ADVICE ON INFANT SLEEP SURFACES

If you are involved with the manufacturing or sale of infant's sleeping surfaces, independent testing can provide evidence that products will not inadvertently contribute to sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

Products for testing can be sent to the NZWTA Ltd laboratory in Napier.

For more information, contact **NZWTA** on +64 6 835 1086 or email: textiles@nzwta.co.nz