



## AMENDED REPORT

**No:** 31866A  
**Date of Issue:** 9 October 2009  
**File No:** 2009/026070

**Prepared for:**  
**MAJOR FURNACE AUSTRALIA PTY LTD**

### Load Testing of a Funeral Casket

This amended report supersedes test report No. 31866 entirely, and was issued to correct the client product name given on page 2.

Issued by

**TESTSAFE AUSTRALIA**

Dealing with

**CONDITIONING AND LOAD TESTING OF A FUNERAL CASKET**

**USING**

**Australasian Cemeteries & Crematoria Association (ACCA) Guidelines**

**'The Use of Cardboard and other Receptacles'**

**Clause 5.c.ii**

APPLICANT: Major Furnace Australia Pty Ltd

ADDRESS: 100 Fairbank Road  
CLAYTON VIC 3169

MANUFACTURER: Not Specified

SAMPLE DESCRIPTION: Client Product Name: Eco-Coffins

Funeral casket constructed from composite of cardboard lined with wood veneer. Six lifting handles installed. The casket delivered for testing was identified by TestSafe Australia as sample S7176.

External Dimensions:  
Width: 615 mm  
Length: 1960 mm  
Height: 380 mm  
Weight: 20.71 kg

JOB No: M14006

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT:**

Australasian Cemeteries & Crematoria Association (ACCA) Guidelines: "The Use of Cardboard and other Receptacles" – issued November 2004, Clause 5.c.ii.

This testing was carried out without reference to an Australian Standard or similar document other than the guidelines listed above.

**RESULT:**

A statement of compliance with the reference document cannot be issued, as the document does not include test methods or pass/fail criteria. For a description of the tests and findings, refer to test results on pages 4 and 5, and photographs in Appendix A.

**Report Issued By:**

  
(J. Kent)

**TEST DESCRIPTION**

Test Dates: First lifting test: 23/09/2009  
 Conditioning: 24/09/2009 – 01/10/2009  
 Final lifting test: 01/10/2009

Test Equipment: Temperature/Humidity Recorder, Tinyview, s/no. 160525  
 Thermoline Conditioning Chamber s/no. 458A (N787)  
 Rule, Rabone, s/no. LC1484  
 Tape Measure, Craftech, s/no. TS5  
 Electronic Scales, AND 60-HP, s/no. 13005880  
 Stop Watch, Jadco, s/no. SW1

Test Method: A mass of 120 kg (sand bag) was placed into the casket. The casket was then raised off the ground using a lifting frame and hooks specially modified to attach to four of the six lifting handles only. A straight edge was placed on the base of the casket and the amount of distortion was measured both lengthways and crossways. This test was performed both with the casket lid removed and the lid in place.

While containing the test mass the casket was placed on a flat surface inside an environmental chamber for a period of 7 days. The internal temperature of the chamber was maintained at  $3\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ . After 7 days the casket was removed from the chamber and once again lifted as described above, and suspended for a duration of 30 minutes. The distortion measurements were repeated, using the same method as for prior to conditioning, and the results tabulated below.

Test Results:

Test No.	Test Condition	Distortion measured	
		Longitudinal	Transverse
1	Before conditioning, Lid On	2.5 mm	2 mm
2	Before conditioning, Lid Off	2.5 mm	1 mm
3	After conditioning, Lid On	2.5 mm	1 mm
4	After conditioning, Lid Off	2.5 mm	1 mm

Remarks: At the completion of the conditioning period examination revealed a slight (2 mm) distortion in the lid in the transverse direction. A small section of the wood veneer on the base of the casket had also started to lift, however the resulting gap between the veneer and the base material of the casket was less than 1 mm

At the completion of the above test the casket was raised and lowered a further five times with the 120 kg mass inside and the lid on to simulate typical usage. Some flexing of the handles was evident, however there was no failure of either the handles or the casket.

It was noted during the lifting tests that the clearance between the inside surface of the handles and the side of the casket was quite small.

Summary: The testing did not appear to cause any physical damage to the base and sides of the casket that would render it unserviceable. All the joints remained intact. There was no further damage evident to the casket or handles as a result of the multiple lifting cycle test.

APPENDIX A – Test Photographs



Photo A1. Casket and lid as received for testing



Photo A2. Casket with 120 kg mass of sand added prior to testing

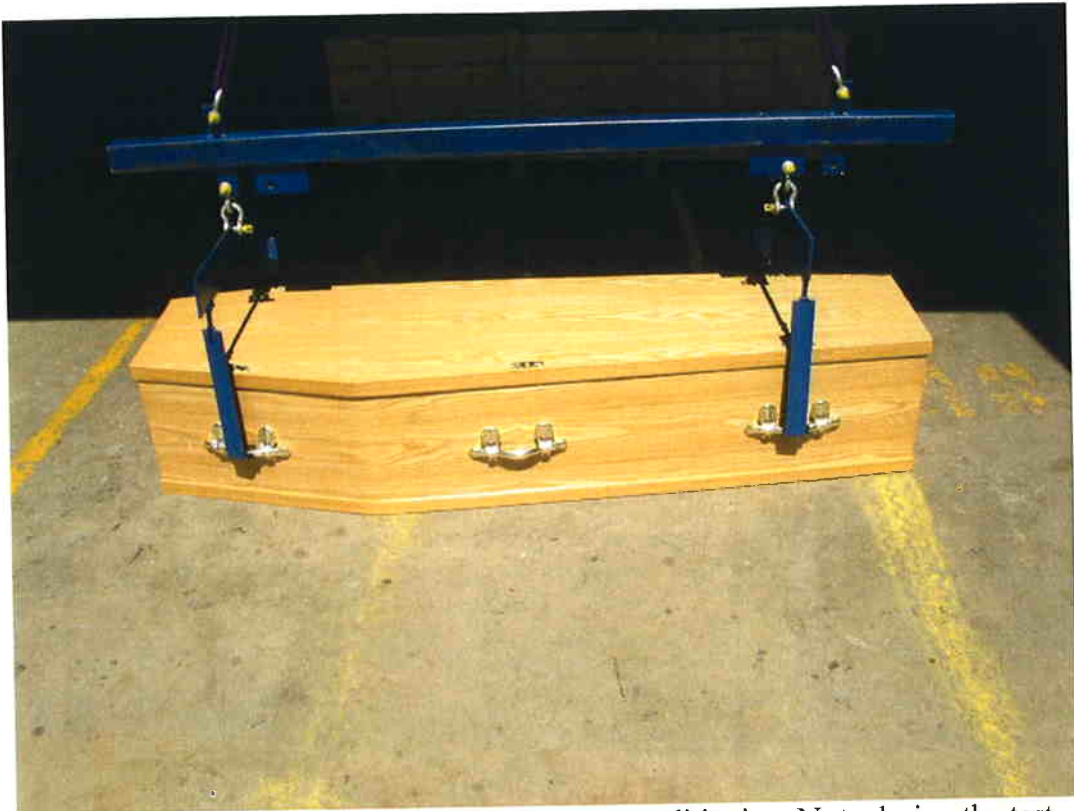


Photo A3. Preparing to lift the casket prior to conditioning. Note during the test only four of the six handles are used for lifting



Photo A4. Performing the 30 minute suspension test on the casket with the lid in place after conditioning for 7 days at a temperature of  $3\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$