

About our laboratory....

GFC testing laboratory was founded in 1997 and is located in the city of Kastoria, Greece.

It represents the only laboratory in Greece qualified to carry out high quality control tests in fur skins.

The laboratory is accredited in accordance with the recognized International Standard *EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005* by the Hellenic Accreditation Council (ESYD) with accreditation certificate number 22.

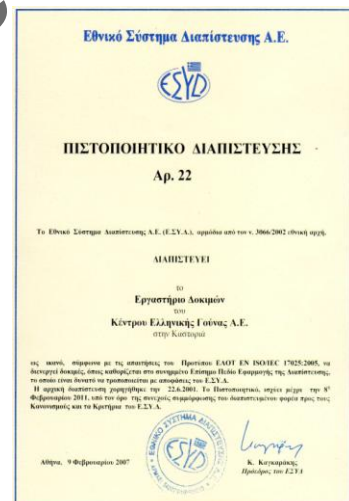
ISO/IEC 17025 is the global quality standard for testing and calibration laboratories. Accreditation of a laboratory according to **ISO/IEC 17025** is the confirmation by a third party, formally stating that an accredited laboratory has the competence to perform certain conformity evaluation tasks. Such conformity evaluations can be performed relative to testing or calibration.

Accreditation represents the formal recognition of the technical and organizational competence of an authority to execute a specific service as described in the scope of accreditation. Competence is the key to transparency, confidence and comparability.

GFC employs highly qualified scientific personnel which operates a fully equipped laboratory aiming at adding perceived value to fur products and services.



ΔΟΚΙΜΕΣ
Αρ. Πιστ. 22



Laboratory Activities

1 Testing laboratory- Analytical Test methods

Laboratory scope of accreditation includes trials that meet all the requirements of the International Standard ELOT EN ISO/IEC 17025.

By applying widely accepted methods, which are specified in International Standards and by making use of appropriate equipment, GFC laboratory carries out the following chemical and physico mechanical trials in fur products:

- Determination of pH
- Determination of Formaldehyde content
- Determination of Chromium(VI) content
- Color fastness to artificial light. Xenon arc fading lamp test - Normal conditions
- Determination of tensile strength and percentage extension
- Determination of Shrinkage Temperature
- Wear of hair covering
- Color Fastness to cycles of to-and-fro rubbing



2 Research and Development

- ✓ Participates in transnational research projects
- ✓ Participates in proficiency testing/inter-laboratory comparison schemes
- ✓ Detects and fixes quality problems of fur products
- ✓ Collaborates with research institutes, universities and fur industry experts

TARGET

Laboratory's constant goal is to provide high quality services as to increase competitiveness and strengthen Greek Fur Industry's market position.

Our primary concern is to:

Secure safety and quality of fur materials

Increase competitiveness

Improve local economy

Reinforce consumer confidence

For any information regarding the process of issuing trial reports, please contact the secretary of GFC laboratory

Did you know that...

... levels of harmful substances as chromium (III & VI), formaldehyde, azo-colors and pentachlorophenol remaining in leather or fur side of processed – dyed furskins as residues must comply with accepted limits, as to secure product safety and protection of the consumer?

... low levels of hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI)) might be detected in processed furskins. Cr(VI) is highly toxic, carcinogenic and short term exposure to it can cause respiratory problems, cough, dyspnea while long term can have serious respiratory effects like bronchitis and pneumonia?

... Formaldehyde is a highly toxic chemical. It is characterized as an eye, skin, and respiratory tract irritant. At concentrations in air higher than 0,1 mg/kg it can lead to symptoms such as irritation in eyes, headaches burning sensation in the throat, discomfort in breathing and is also possibly associated with cancer?