

To: Whom It May Concern
From: Dave Panning (dpanning@bifma.org)
Date: June 14, 2012

Subject: **Testing to Exceed ANSI/BIFMA Standards**

BIFMA mechanical test standards are developed with the position that these are minimum standards of performance required for office and institutional furnishings. Many manufacturers choose to test their products beyond these minimum requirements with additional loads, forces, or other factors such as removing foam for seating durability. When sound engineering judgment determines that a test exceeds BIFMA minimums, then a manufacturer may still make a declaration of conformance to the ANSI/BIFMA standard. As such, independent auditors should take this into consideration when auditing a manufacturers test lab. Independent test labs shall not modify test loads, forces, or other factors unless clearly requested to do so by the manufacturer.

Please contact the Director of Technical Services at BIFMA should there be any questions regarding the above statement.