

ISTA® 6 Testing and Certification Services

For over 50 years, we've developed solutions for customers across the country in various industries. Our experts work with you to develop a custom, engineered solution for your e-commerce product and package to help ensure your packaging performs from warehouse to doorstep.

Ensure Product Protection through the Last Mile

In the e-commerce marketplace, when it comes to packaging, it's not just your products you are protecting, it's also the reputation of your brand and the potential for future purchases.

Great Northern's in-house certified ISTA® (International Safe Transit Association) technicians can test and certify packages and fully loaded pallets in our state-of-the-art **ISTA 6 test lab** to pre-determine if packages are optimally designed and if modifications are needed.

The ISTA 6 tests expose packages to anticipated conditions and potential hazards that could be encountered throughout the supply chain and distribution channels. The ISTA 6 test protocols include:

- **Vibration Testing**
- **Incline Testing**
- **Material Handling**
- **Free-Fall Drop Testing**
- **Compression Testing**



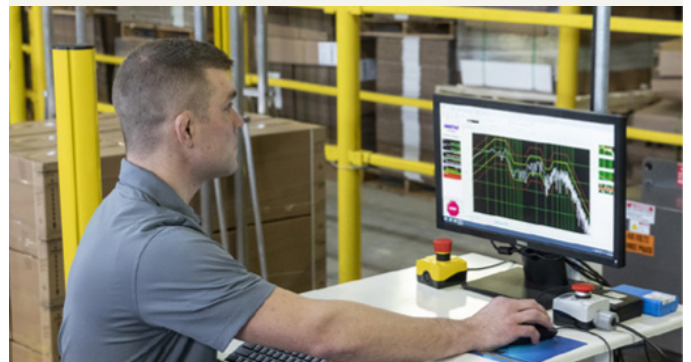
Single Resource for Efficient Package Design and Testing

Great Northern's in-house packaging design and testing expertise streamlines work and improves package integrity. When additional reinforcement is needed to pass the ISTA 6 test, our packaging designers make modifications that provide:

- **Package Optimization**
- **Reduction Of Overall Cost**
- **Reduction Of Lifecycle Waste**

A Full Range of Product Protection

Great Northern offers a full range of 100% recyclable interior and exterior product protection including corrugate solutions, custom molded pulp inserts, and VBoard® edge protection. Other non-recyclable interior protection such as coolers, foam, and plastic are also available.



ISTA® 6 Lab Testing FAQ

How many packages are needed for Amazon 6 testing?

SIOC

- 1 unit for non-fragile, 5 units for fragile or liquid

Overbox

- 2 units for non-fragile, 5 units for fragile or liquid

Definition of Fragile

- Glass, ceramic, porcelain, clay

Liquid, Semi-Liquid, solids that become liquid

- >70-degree F

Are there any exclusions to the SIOC testing?

At this time, third-party sellers do not need to have packages SIOC certified. HAZMAT (e.g. lithium ion batteries) require special stickers on the carton and do not qualify for the Frustration Free testing program.

What is the cost for package testing?

The services provided by the Great Northern ISTA® 6 Lab are an added value for our current customers and do not incur any costs or fees for completion of package testing.

Note: testing can range from \$800-\$2,000 at third-party testing facilities.

How is SIOC versus Overbox testing determined?

SIOC

- Larger than 18"x14"x8" or greater than 20 lbs. AND fulfilled by Amazon

Overbox

- Smaller than 6"x4"x0.375"

Does the Great Northern ISTA® 6 Lab have any package limitations?

Currently, the weight restriction is 125 lbs. for any non-palletized package requiring drop testing.

What is the lead time of the package testing?

As an example, the Amazon 6A SIOC test takes 5-6 hours to complete.

Typical lead time is 2-3 days from the time the Appleton Design Lab receives the package to be tested.

Lead times can vary and it's recommended to check with Appleton Design before sending the package for testing.



Contact us to learn more about an optimal package design and testing protocol for your products.

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