

## Frequently Asked Questions

The following list of questions and answers are taken from the results of focus group research with members of the general public when discussing Cryomation.

### Q. Who are Cryomation?

A. Cryomation Ltd is a company based in Woodbridge, Suffolk, England that has developed an automated system with patented technology that offers an environmentally friendlier alternative to cremation for humans.

### Q. What is Cryomation?

A. This name is given to our automated system of cryogenically freezing the body in its coffin using liquid nitrogen until brittle, removing the moisture, any implants and crucially 100% of all bacteria, pathogens & viruses before using freeze drying techniques to leave the remains as a safe and sterile powder.

### Q. How does Cryomation turn the frozen body into a powder?

A. After the body is cryogenically frozen it is compressed automatically and then freeze dried under vacuum conditions.

### Q. What are the environmental advantages with Cryomation?

A. Cryomation produces NO emissions and eliminates poisonous mercury emissions altogether compared to traditional cremation that can release a number of extremely toxic emissions into the atmosphere.

In operational terms Cryomation has a **CO<sub>2</sub>** footprint reduction of up to **80% when** compared to most traditional cremations

Cryomation saves space resulting in the **sustainable** use of **land**. If Cryomated remains are buried they return to soil in the ground within 6-12months, the plot needed is only one third of the normal size and means that it can be used again by future family generations, efficiently completing the **ecological cycle of life**.

### Q. Can the body be dressed in normal clothing?

A. The body can be dressed but in bio-degradable clothing.



### **Q. What happens to the remains after Cryomation?**

A. You can choose from one of two options

**Standard Cryomation** - the Cryomated remains can be buried in a plot a third of the normal size of a traditional burial plot. This can be sustainably re-used by future family generations as the remains return to soil within 6-12months.

**Standard Cryomation + accelerated composting** – An optional accelerated composting process can be selected returning remains as safe and nutrient rich ensuring that what is returned can itself, generate and sustain life.

### **Q. Did Cryomation invent this process?**

A. The idea of using freezing techniques for human remains is an old one. However no commercial systems have been deployed yet. Cryomation uses patented technology and has patents pending on the methods used to achieve the sterility needed to ensure minimal environmental impact.

### **Q. Are you up and running now?**

A. Cryomation has been up and running for over four years developing the technology for our process as well as the biological & environmental research. We are now conducting our next round of funding to launch the first commercial units.

### **Q. Who has developed Cryomation?**

A. The team at Cryomation, in partnership with the research teams at the Micro-Biology & Life Science department at the University of Hertfordshire (UK), Hosokawa Micron BV (Holland) and Air Products Plc (UK).

### **Q. Is Cryomation available now?**

A. The Cryomation process has been developed, tested and proto-typed, the resulting claims subjected to a 3 month independent review, on behalf of *The Carbon Trust* and we are now ready to move to the build and full scale testing of the first Cryomator.

### **Q. Where will Cryomation be available first?**

A. Commercial interest exists both in the UK and internationally from private and public funeral operators, Funeral Directors and the general public, all keen to see the deployment of this environmentally friendly alternative. The location for the first deployments will be defined towards the end of this year subject to approvals.



### **Q. What is a Cryomator?**

A. It's the name of the automatic machine used for the Cryomation process.

### **Q. What does a Cryomator look like?**

A. Designed in high grade stainless steel, the Cryomator is fully automated and computer controlled and monitored and similar in size to a standard cremator. 3D examples of the design will be made available on [www.Cryomation.co.uk](http://www.Cryomation.co.uk) soon.

### **Q. Can Cryomated remains be acceptable for a Green Burial or Woodland site?**

A. Yes. Many 'green' burial sites do not accept a burial request if the body had been embalmed using toxic fluids. Cryomated remains are 100% sterile, clear of all bacteria, viruses, pathogens and toxins.

### **Q. Is Nitrogen safe for the environment?**

A. Nitrogen is a major part of the environment. It is inert, non-flammable and actually makes up 78.1% of the air we breathe. Liquid nitrogen has been used safely for decades in commercial applications seen in pharmaceutical and food sectors.

### **Q. How much will it cost to be Cryomated?**

A. Prices will be set by the industry operators but we have designed Cryomation to be comparable to costs for traditional methods accepted today.

### **Q. Is Cryomation legal today?**

A. Cryomation is neither in breach of legislation nor is contained within existing legislation. However we are encouraging reviews of our technology and are working towards legislative approval in a number of countries today encouraged by the industry and public support for Cryomation's environmental benefits.

### **Q. Are there other new developments in this field?**

A. There are a number of alternative methods to traditional burial and cremation being developed to come to the market just as Cryomation plans to. This is good news as the time is right for alternatives and a wider choice for everyone in an industry that has seen little change in over 100 years.





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Cryomation won the regional **2010 Shell Springboard Business Award** ([www.shellspringboard.org/winning-ideas/winning-ideas-2010/41](http://www.shellspringboard.org/winning-ideas/winning-ideas-2010/41)) and was the subject of a three month independent environmental review on behalf of **The Carbon Trust** resulting in positive confirmation of its claims.

**Cryomation®** is a registered trade mark

[www.cryomation.co.uk](http://www.cryomation.co.uk)

