

Ian Burton takes over the reins

Ian Burton has now officially taken over leadership of AFRDI after Bob Panitzki's retirement as CEO.

Ian said 'he was looking forward to the opportunity and challenges that will come with his General Manager position'. 'Over the years I've been involved in the development of standards, certification programs and specialized test equipment. That will certainly continue to support our client base and as new requirements emerge'.

He also said 'he hopes to build on the proud reputation that AFRDI has in the industry'.

After a few days in his new part-time role as Business Development Manager, Bob said 'he looked forward to assisting Ian, planned to keep in touch with AFRDI's client base and wanted to add some new ones to our family'.



Pictured are (L to R): Furntech-AFRDI's BDM Bob Panitzki and newly appointed GM Ian Burton.

REGISTERED SERVICE PROVIDER

AFRDI continues to be recognised as a Registered Service Provider (RSP).

As a RSP, AFRDI is capable of providing scientific or technical expertise and resources to perform research and development on behalf of other companies.

If you are a small to medium-sized company, AFRDI can help you to identify and gain access to expert R&D. Companies that engage an RSP to perform Research or Development can claim an R&D tax offset for eligible expenditure on registered R&D activities even if their total claim is less than the usual expenditure threshold of \$20,000 in an income year. You would need to seek expert tax advice to ascertain if your company and project is eligible.

Please note that the D is often silent in R&D and shouldn't be. Development is also part of the title. If you have a project that may qualify please contact us at bob@furntech.org.au

AFRDI GREEN TICK

AFRDI Green Tick Certification has just completed another solid year with more products now certified.

With a lot of dialogue about our changing or challenged environs more companies and people are seeking better ways to use resources. The Reduce, Reuse, Recycle mantra has become more important in both our business and personal lives.

We are keen to add your products to our AFRDI Green Tick list and Team Leader Dr. Lee Bowkett is ready to assist, so please contact him at lee@furntech.org.au



STANDARDS UPDATE

Draft DR AS/NZS 4610 parts 1, 2, and 3 - Furniture School and Educational has been released by Standards Australia for Public Comment. These Standards were originally published in 1999 and the Industry is looking forward to the publication of the revised Standards.

The commenting period closes on 18 August 2019.

Please note you can view each of the below draft Standards (and related commentary) after entering login details at the following individual links:

AS/NZS 4610.1 Furniture - School and educational, Part 1: Chairs - Strength, durability and stability [link](#)

AS/NZS 4610.2 Furniture - School and educational, Part 2: Tables - Strength, durability and stability [link](#)

AS/NZS 4610.3 Furniture - School and educational, Part 3: Storage furniture - Strength, durability and stability [link](#)

FURNITURE RECALLS

This year the list of recalled furniture items published by the ACCC on the Product Safety Australia site unfortunately already covers a wide range of furniture product types including:

- Bean bags
- Bunks
- Children's tables & chairs
- Cots
- High chairs
- Poufs
- Standing desks
- Toddler beds

To find details of recalls visit the Product Safety Australia Website [here](#).

If you have an interest in having your products tested and certified give us a call on (03) 6326 6155 or email us at admin@furntech.org.au

AFRDI PLATINUM MEMBERSHIP

AFRDI Platinum Membership offers the opportunity to receive a 20% discount on most testing over a 12 month period.

The discount applies not only to Off Tool Samples but also to certification renewals.

If you are a Platinum member, thank you. If not, please consider the investment.



SENDING US SAMPLES

Please send large furniture items to us, such as bunks and desks, unassembled.

If you are sending assembled items, please consider they are typically:

- More difficult to handle
- More expensive to transport and
- Subject to damage in transit prior to testing

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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For more information, visit [here](#).