

First Products Qualify on Sustainability

Products from three companies have now achieved AFRDI's new eco-labeling certification, AFRDI Standard 150 (Sustainability for Commercial Furniture). The online "List of products certified to AFRDI Sustainability Standard 150 - Commercial Furniture" is accessible [here](#).

The companies are BFX, from Queensland, Fifteenth Landing in Melbourne (selling products developed by Teknion), and Melbourne's Stem Intelligent Seating

AFRDI Standard 150 actively encourages a re-think in the way furniture is made – starting with ethical sourcing of materials and labour, through to responsible use of water and energy, and in finding better ways of packaging and reducing waste. The Standard will, over time, encourage designers to find new ways to design that reduce the diversity of materials and simplify fastening and assembly technologies to facilitate end-of-life product recycling.

AFRDI CEO, Bob Panitzki, said there was a genuine sense of achievement arising from the successful progression of the first three companies towards achieving recognition under the new Sustainability Standard. He said AFRDI had set the bar at a high plane for its Platinum Level, but this was necessary to bring about a long-term lifting of environmental and sustainability consciousness in manufacturing.

AFRDI Standard 150 certifies products at three levels, with the expectation that once having gained entry-level qualifications, many will choose to progress to higher levels and greater adherence to advanced sustainability principles. Environmental and sustainability certification is fast becoming a requirement in tendering to supply office furniture in both the government and private sectors.

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