

# the AFRDI bulletin

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## The Bottom Line

Many organisations look at the cost of testing and certification as an **expense**.

Our opinion is that it should be looked at as an **investment** and **amortised** over the 3 years of the **AFRDI Certification**. At AFRDI we offer a number of ways you can make the testing \$ go further.

Did you know that

- by becoming an AFRDI Platinum member brings a 20% discount off list pricing?
- membership of some furniture industry associations attracts a 10% discount off AFRDI list prices?

The above two can be complimentary giving up to 30% discount off list price.

We offer further incentives of volume discount with 1/3 off the third and subsequent similar items submitted at the same time, fully tested and certified and from the same client.

Take for example (A) a bunk bed tested and AFRDI Blue Tick certified to the **Australian Standard AS/NZS 4220:2010**. If testing 3 bunks and our client is both AFRDI and relevant furniture industry association members, the discounted fee per bunk could be a **whopping 35% discount** off list price.

Let's look at a different example (B) for a bunk bed. A customer sells an average of 1 bunk per week over the 3 years of the AFRDI Blue Tick Certification = 156 bunks. Then the AFRDI Blue Tick testing and certification cost per bunk is only \$20. If a member as above A it is more likely to be only \$13 per bunk with the discounts.

Not only do you as a client have the peace of mind that the product complies but also the advantage to promote that aspect to your distributor and thence the distributor to the consumer.

If you were a consumer wouldn't you be prepared to pay an extra few \$ so that your children could sleep in a compliant product?

The kind of examples above are available across the AFRDI Blue Tick and AFRDI Green Tick schemes. Please contact us at [admin@furntech.org.au](mailto:admin@furntech.org.au) to discuss your requirement.

## DESK TESTING

### What a client needs to provide to obtain a desk quote from AFRDI:

To obtain a desk testing quote a client needs to provide

- a brochure, or
- photograph, or
- web page link, or
- diagram(s)

that depicts/describes what desks (or desk range) they are interested in having tested and AFRDI Blue Tick certified.

Worktop shape(s) and sizes to be covered by the certificate must also be provided.



### AFRDI Certification of desks - frame only:

Do you sell desk frames to your clients without worktops?

We will certify desks as being frame only, however although sold without worktops, they must be evaluated with a worktop.

The test sample worktop in this instance must be supplied and must have a formaldehyde emission rating of E1 or better.

The desk's certificate will also clearly indicate that the desk is sold as a frame only and that the desk will only be covered by our certification as a complete work desk when fitted with an appropriate worktop.

An appropriate worktop is:

- One that is at least as strong, stiff and heavy as those listed on the certificate, and
- One that matches the dimensions of the worktops listed on the certificate, or falls within the range of acceptable desktop dimensions listed on the certificate,
- One with an equal or better formaldehyde emission rating, and
- Is securely attached and correctly positioned on the frame

Clients must supply us with information (in a clearly understandable documentary form) that covers the dimensions and proper positioning and fixing of the worktop with respect to the frame (including a list of specified screws or other fasteners). This information must be readily available to their customers.

## ERIC PAUL RETIRES

After 16 years as a Team Leader, Eric has decided to retire.

Eric has been responsible for the testing of office swivel chairs and components. He has also assumed responsibility for calibrations, equipment maintenance and other mechanical and electrical fixes.

Eric is well known to many of our clients, and always willing to explain the rigours of product testing.

Eric's knowledge and input will be sorely missed and on behalf of our clients, members, staff and Board we thank Eric and wish him well.



*Eric (left) and Furntech-AFRDI General Manager, Ian Burton, at Eric's farewell lunch.*

## ACCC 2021 PRODUCT SAFETY PRIORITIES

Included in the ACCC 2021 Product Safety Priorities are unsafe sleeping products and toppling furniture.

In his speech to the National Consumers Congress, ACCC Chairman Mr. Sims said 'that 22 children under age 9 had been reported killed by toppling furniture between 2011 and 2018. He said the ACCC estimates that 50 people per week receive hospital treatment for injuries caused by toppling furniture'.

Please see the ACCC release [here](#).

## SMALL FEE INCREASE

After no increase in 2020, we will be applying a small, approximately 1.9% fee increase from April 2021.

## OUT NOW

Visit the AFRDI Certification Guide [here](#).

