

# the AFRDI bulletin

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Furntech [www.furntech.org.au](http://www.furntech.org.au)

## Rated Load Standard for Bunk Beds – Special offer 33% off – be quick!

**AFRDI 152 was prepared by Furntech AFRDI to address the fact that there is no known standard for bunk beds (and elevated beds) defined as a rated load for such beds.**

The objective of this standard is to provide manufacturers with safety, strength, durability, stability, and marking and information requirements for bunk beds used by both children and adults in both domestic and non-domestic environments. Additionally it aims to allow these beds to be rated as suitable for people with a body mass up to 135 kg per sleeping position.

The target market for such bunk beds or elevated beds includes:

- Short term rental accommodation
- Military barracks
- Boarding schools
- Camp grounds
- Ski clubs
- Outdoor education facilities
- Domestic dwellings where bunk beds are used by large children or adults
- Any application where high durability and strength is required.

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The first 5 bunks in 2020 tested to AFRDI 152 will receive a 33% discount. This in addition to any membership discount.

This Standard meets or exceeds the product specific requirements of:

- AS/NZS 4220:2010 - *Bunk beds and other elevated beds*
- Consumer Protection Notice No. 1 of 2003 (sometimes known as the mandatory standard) – *Consumer Product Safety Standard: Bunk Beds* (the CPN refers to AS/NZS 4220:1994 and the CPN also does not include any strength or durability requirements)
- The QLD Government - *Fair Trading (Safety Standards) Regulation 2011* (Subordinate Legislation 2011 No. 264) - bunk beds safety for short-term rental accommodation in Queensland
- Standards Australia Handbook - HB 393-2011 - *Bunk Beds for the short-term rental accommodation industry*. [For mechanical strength and durability only. For most bunk designs it will also exceed the requirements for stability.]

AFRDI Standard 152 is based on AS/NZS 4220:2010 with the following (2) major variations:

- (1) an increase in the severity of the testing of guardrails, stability, fatigue, impact and treads
- (2) the addition of distributed static and concentrated static load tests applied to the sleeping surfaces and grip strength test on hand holds

Bunk Beds meeting AFRDI 152 will definitely meet AS/NZS 4220:2010 and the CPN requirements. These certifications can be shown on the certificate if requested.

Email AFRDI Admin [here](#) to discuss your requirements or to obtain a quote.



Australasian Furnishing Research & Development Institute Limited

ABN 44 009 579 908, trading as Furntech

School Road (University Campus) Newnham Drive PO Box 2042 Launceston Tasmania 7250 Australia

Tel (03) 6326 6155 Fax (03) 6326 3090

Website: [www.furntech.org.au](http://www.furntech.org.au) Email: [info@furntech.org.au](mailto:info@furntech.org.au)

# NEW SCHOOL & ED FURNITURE STANDARDS

The industry has been looking forward to these revised standards which will replace the 1999 versions of AS/NZS 4610.

The following revised standards will soon be published.

*AS/NZS 4610.1 Furniture — School and educational, Part 1: Tables — Strength, durability and stability*

*AS/NZS 4610.2 Furniture — School and educational, Part 2: Chairs — Strength, durability and stability*

*AS/NZS 4610.3 Furniture — School and educational, Part 3: Storage furniture — Strength, durability and stability*

A big thank you to Peter Wilson of AFRDI as Draft Lead, and AFRDI General Manager Ian Burton for their many hours of work.

## ACCC NEWS

The ACCC is recommending that the government strengthen the Australian Consumer Law by requiring business to comply with a “new safety duty”, which would mean business must take “reasonable steps” to ensure the products they sell are not unsafe.

The media release said ‘Australians could be at risk of injuries or even death from 6.6 million individual products currently under voluntary recall, new figures show’.

Click [here](#) to view media release in full.

## REPORT FROM AFRDI AGM

**The AGM was held at Woods Furniture late November.**

Tony Rogers was re-elected Chair, Dane Walsh Deputy Chair and Ben Wortley Executive member. In addition, retiring Board members Isabella Hawkes, Jonathan Muller, Marcus Nelson and Patrizia Torelli were all re-elected. They join Peter McCutcheon and Ken Payne whose terms expire next year.

The Chairman and General Manager mentioned that an uncertain global economy presented some challenges for AFRDI over the past year. They also highlighted growth in our AFRDI Green Tick Certification program, our well established AFRDI Blue Tick and Furntech Orange Tick Certification programs and the massive work undertaken in reviewing Australian Standards AS 4688.1 for fixed height seating and particularly AS/NZS 4610.1, .2 and .3 for School and Education furniture.

The Chairman and General Manager thanked all our great clients as well as the Board and Staff for their work. A special thank you was made to retiring CEO Bob Panitzki for his 16 years as Institute leader, who has now settled into his part-time role as AFRDI Business Development Manager.

General Manager Ian Burton in his first Annual Report also covered the new and improved equipment commissioned during the year, which will not only cover new standards but also improve productivity.

## NEW AFRDI BOARD MEMBER

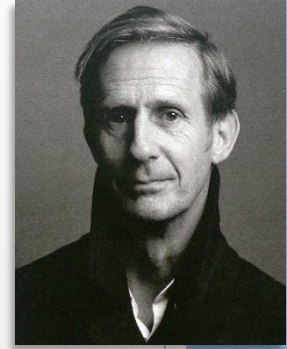
**Jonathan Muller has joined the AFRDI Board to fill a casual vacancy.**

He studied as an Industrial Designer and followed this up with a Bachelor of Architecture from RMIT University.

Jonathan's work has involved him designing and crafting furniture, an exhibition designer and architect specialising in 3D modelling and rendering and then as a concept architect in the healthcare sector.

Jonathan said 'he was looking forward to joining the AFRDI Board and contributing to the growth of AFRDI'.

Chairman Tony Rogers said 'Jonathan's skills will be invaluable to the AFRDI Board, particularly his architectural qualifications and industry connection'.



## NEW CERTIFICATE FORMAT ROLLED OUT

**The new style certificate, which was introduced mid-year for Desks and Fixed Height Chairs, is now being rolled-out across all product types.**

Recent AFRDI Blue Tick Certificates for Height Adjustable Chairs, AFRDI Green Tick for all products and Furntech Orange Tick for Bunk Beds show examples of the new format.

Just to recap, the new certificates incorporate major changes including:

1. A second page (if required) with more detail on the item(s) covered by the certification
2. A new signature block
3. A background watermark
4. A nominal expiry date and suggestion to check Furntech-AFRDI's [website](#) to confirm status.

The first change is being introduced to assist clients and specifiers better understand the coverage of the certificate.

The fourth is to promote the website as the ultimate source of authority with respect to the currency of a certificate (the website is updated regularly and will more accurately reflect any changes that may have occurred).

The others are to enhance the uniqueness of AFRDI's IP.

## NEW AFRDI GREEN TICK CLIENTS

**We would like to welcome a number of new AFRDI Green Tick members.**

The list of companies and their currently certified products are listed [here](#).



***Season's greetings from everyone at AFRDI -  
thanks for your business in 2019...  
We look forward to working with you again in 2020!***