
**Furniture — Functional sizes and
performance requirements**

Part 2: Storage units

ICS 97.140

Reference number

DRS 423-2: 2025

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In order to match with technological development and to keep continuous progress in industries, standards are subject to periodic review. Users shall ascertain that they are in possession of the latest edition

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Foreword

Rwanda Standards are prepared by Technical Committees and approved by Rwanda Standards Board (RSB) Board of Directors in accordance with the procedures of RSB, in compliance with Annex 3 of the WTO/TBT agreement on the preparation, adoption and application of standards.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare national standards. Final Draft Rwanda Standards adopted by Technical committees are ratified by members of RSB Board of Directors for publication and gazettment as Rwanda Standards.

RS 423-2 was prepared by Technical Committee RSB/TC 54, *Timber, furniture and engineered wood*.

In the preparation of this standard, reference was made to the following standard:

- 1) ISO 21887- 2007-11, *Durability of wood and wood - based products — Use classes*
- 2) GS 983: 2009, *Furniture — Specification for Furniture Components*

The assistance derived from the above source is hereby acknowledged with thanks.

RS 423 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Furniture — Functional sizes and performance requirements*:

- *Part 1: Chairs and tables for office furniture*
- *Part 2: Storage units*
- *Part 3: Chairs and tables for educational institutions*
- *Part 4: Chairs and tables for home furniture*

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (RS 423-2: 2020), clauses 2 and 7 which have been technically revised.

Committee membership

The following organizations were represented on the Technical Committee on Timber, Furniture and Engineered wood (RSB/TC 54) in the preparation of this standard.

CAMOSAG LTD

Cleaner Production and Climate Innovation Centre (CPCIC)

Energy Development Corporation Limited (EDCL)

GIZ

National Industrial Research and Development Agency (NIRDA)

Rwanda Inspectorate, Competition and Consumer Protection Authority (RICA)

Rwanda Transport development Agency (RTDA)

Ultimate Forest Company Ltd

University of Rwanda – College of Science and Technology (UR-CST)

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Introduction

Despite the Rwandan growth trend, the wood sector has not been implemented as required to produce high quality wood products and vigorous competitive market. The quality of wooden furniture is highly affected by the quality of timber, standardized production chain, quality control mechanism and grading rules. The lack of aforesaid factors results into market dominated by poor quality wooden furniture, compromised safety and unfair competition at the market.

The emerging market dynamics show that consumer's preferences have gradually shifted from furniture made by local timbers to the imported ones, which is considered as a limiting factor to the development and growth of the wood economy in Rwanda.

To ensure a positive trade balance in wood market there is a dire need to improve and ensure quality of domestic wood products.

This Standard is one of the series of standards on furniture in Rwanda. The series currently consists of the following:

RS 413: 2020, *Furniture — Quality and grading of wooden furniture*

RS 423-1: 2020, *Furniture — Functional sizes and Performance Requirements — Part 1: Chairs and tables for office furniture*

RS 423-3: 2020, *Furniture — Functional sizes and Performance Requirements — Part 3: Chairs and tables for educational institutions*

RS 424: 2020, *Furniture — Bedsteads — Specification*

RS 427: 2020, *Round and sawn timber — Nomenclature of timbers used in Rwanda*

DRS 433: 2019, *Furniture — Chairs and tables for home furniture — Functional sizes, strength, durability and stability for seating and tables (Under development)*

DRS 434: 2019, *Furniture — Tables — Test methods for the determination of stability, strength and durability (Under development)*

DRS 435: 2019, *Timber in joinery — General requirements (Under development)*

RS ISO 7173:1989, *Furniture — Chairs and stools — Determination of strength and durability.*

Furniture — Functional sizes and performance requirements — Part 2: Storage units

1 Scope

This Draft Rwanda Standard specifies the basic functional sizes for office storage units. It includes requirements for stability, strength and durability.

This standard does not cover requirements for materials, design, construction or quality.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

RS ISO 7170, *Furniture — Storage units — Test methods for the determination of strength, durability and stability*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

storage unit

piece of furniture for storing something

Example A shelf, a cupboard

3.2

cupboard

piece of furniture with a door and typically shelves used for storage

3.3

drawer

box-shaped storage compartment with two sides, front and back, bottom members without a lid, made to slide horizontally in and out of a desk, chest, or other piece of furniture

3.4

shelf

flat long board or rigid material, fixed horizontally in a frame or in cupboard that provides a surface for the storage or display of objects

3.5

pedestal

piece of furniture with a chest of drawers or rectangular cabinet containing drawers

Note 1 to entry: A pedestal can be called side bed desk.

3.6

ironmongery

any metal fixing or fitting used on furniture that penetrate the material, provide security, provide movement and used for safety

Note 1 to entry Fixings that penetrate the material, include screws, bolts and nails. Those that provide security include locks and latches; those for movement are hinges whereas those for safety include handles, fasteners, ball catches and overhead door closers.

4 Types of storage units

The types of office storage units covered by this standard include:

- a) shelves;
- b) cupboards;
- c) drawers; and
- d) pedestals.

5 Dimensions of office storage units

5.1 Kitchen worktop

The height of a kitchen worktop shall be in the range of 870 mm to 1 000 mm.

5.2 Drawers

Table 1 presents the minimum dimensions of drawers and shelves.

Table 1— Minimum dimensions of drawers and shelves

Type of storage	Minimum internal dimensions of usable space mm		
	Length	Width	Height
Horizontal storage	420	330	120
Suspended filing	420	330	270

6 Requirements for ironmongery

When a storage unit is standing on a level concrete floor, catching and locking devices, including latch rods for stationery cupboards, shall operate smoothly. No part of the storage unit should deform when operating the ironmongery.

7 Requirements for stability, strength and durability of storage units

7.1 Stability test

Stability test for storage units shall be conducted in accordance with RS ISO 7170.

7.2 Strength and durability test

Strength and durability test for storage unit shall be conducted in accordance with RS ISO 7170.

8 Marking

8.1 Adhesive label

Each storage unit shall bear the following information on indelible and legible adhesive label stuck to the back of the storage unit or to the inside surface of the left side face:

- a) manufacturer's name, trade name or trademark;
- b) model identification number;
- c) batch identification number; and
- d) maximum load carrying capacity per shelf/drawer

8.2 Data sheet

Each storage unit shall have an accompanying data sheet. The information on the sheet shall be printed in the largest typeface practicable and expressed as simply as possible. The following information shall be provided:

- a) manufacturer's name, trade name or trademark;
- b) model identification and the batch identification;

- c) list of the materials used in the manufacture of the storage unit;
- d) if the storage unit is to be assembled or installed by the purchaser, full instructions, including diagrams, indicating exactly how the storage unit is to be assembled or installed; and
- e) if the storage unit has adjustable shelves, instructions on how to adjust them shall be provided.

8.3 Care and maintenance

Information concerning care and maintenance of the storage unit shall be provided by the manufacturer and delivered together with the datasheet. The following information shall be given:

- a) if the use of certain cleaning materials could cause permanent damage to the storage unit, a warning to this effect, and the action to be taken to avoid this possibility;
- b) recommended method of cleaning exposed surfaces;
- c) correct methods to be used for major cleaning operations; and
- d) any recommended maintenance procedures

9 Inspection methods

Each storage unit shall be visually examined for compliance with the requirements of this standard for which tests to assess compliance are given in Clause 7.

Bibliography

- [1] RS ISO 21887, *Durability of wood and wood-based products — Use classes*
- [2] United Nations Educational, *Scientific and Cultural Organization — School furniture handbook, 1979*

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