

Overview

Research & Engineering plays a major part in the development of AWTA Ltd. Based in Melbourne; the Research & Engineering group forms the largest wool measurement and engineering research group in the wool industry. Work conducted in the group falls into three main areas:

- Fundamental research to develop an understanding of the underlining physics of specific measurement systems
- Development and enhancing of Test Methods and Regulations
- Development, design and manufacture of testing equipment for in-house use and sale

Research is often conducted in collaboration with other research organisations, such as CSIRO, State agencies involved in Sheep and Wool research, commercial processors, industry bodies and non-competing laboratories such as the New Zealand Wool Testing Authority Ltd (NZWTA Ltd) and the Wool Testing Bureau South Africa (WTB SA).

More recently AWTA Ltd scientific staff has been working under contracts with AWI and the Sheep CRC to provide professional supervision of research programs including FibreGEN for Dark and Coloured fibre measurement in wool top and the Wool Handle Meter for evaluation of fabrics.

AWTA Ltd's research results are normally reported at the yearly IWTO meeting and in appropriate journals including the Journal of Textile Research.

The Engineering group is responsible for manufacturing equipment for use in the Company's own laboratories as well as for sale to other laboratories. AWTA Ltd built testing equipment has been exported to organisations in Argentina, Belgium, China, New Zealand and South Africa.

Service Summary

AWTA Ltd. researchers are available to conduct and manage research projects under contract or in partnership with others.

The Research Groups expertise is extensive and covers the following broad area:

- Wool Measurement Science
- Textile Physics and Engineering
- Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis
- Near Infra-Red Spectroscopy
- Management of Research Projects