



DOCUMENT REMEDIATION

ADR attend many water ingress damage and mould contamination claims throughout NSW. On occasions these claims are in large institutions such as hospitals. One such claim that ADR attended was a rural hospital that had suffered a significant water ingress during heavy storms which led to a widespread mould outbreak which was featured in the ADR Newsletter August 2017. On the same claim there were a large amount of records stored in various areas of the hospital. These records were also affected by the original ingress and were subsequently found to be contaminated by mould.

trip to regional NSW to collect the affected records. Once the staff had carefully manifested, wrapped and boxed the important hospital records, they were transported to the ADR treatment facility in Sydney for comprehensive Remediation.



The records were placed into a specially designed quarantine containment area within the facility awaiting treatment. As required, the records were moved to the processing area for the Remediation treatment. ADR's document processing facilities include a specifically designed and constructed Remediation area where trained



Fortunately ADR are experts in documents and records Restoration and Remediation and were able to provide a proposal including a scope of works and cost estimates for the safe containment, removal and Remediation of the mouldy records. As the ADR staff were already on-site conducting the Remediation of the structure and contents of the hospital, they were able to complete the pack-out of records during their attendance, rather than making a special

staff remove the mould contamination by brushing each page using application specific brushes over down-draft tables connected to HEPA filtered vacuum systems. Once the records were processed they were moved to another quarantine area where biological samples were collected and sent to an independent mycologist for analysis/report. The mycologist's report confirmed that the records were free of mould and now considered safe to return to the hospital.

Mouldy Records - What's the problem?

Paper based Documents or Records that are made wet by a water ingress and are not dried within an appropriate time frame will inevitably grow mould on them. Mould can be particularly detrimental to the longevity of documents and records if not treated correctly. The mould that forms on wet paper items is actually feeding on the fibres and can permanently stain and eventually break down and weaken the fibres of the paper, eventually causing the paper to become unstable and full apart. There are a number of methods available to neutralize the threat of mould on paper. Some of those methods used by ADR may include Gamma Irradiation (GI), Hydrogen Peroxide Vaporisation (HPV) and brushing and vacuuming in conjunction with down-draft tables and HEPA filter exhaust systems. It should be noted that some government authorities do not allow the use of GI or HPV on records that are considered a state archive/record. ADR have in excess of 20 years experience in Restoration of documents and records affected by water, fire or mould and have earned an enviable reputation in this field.

COMIC RECOVERY

"Sorry Maam, did you say your hubby's Motorbike magazines are covered in mould? He must be a Fungi to have around."

