

NEWS

INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS MOVE AHEAD ON SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY STANDARD

More than 300 international representatives from industry, government, labour and consumer organisations met in Sydney in late January to further develop a new International Standard for Social Responsibility.

During the 5 day meeting, the group discussed issues related to the environment, human rights, labour practices, organisational governance, fair business practices, community involvement, social development and consumer issues.

Based on discussions during the week and comments received on the second working draft, the group will now be able to move forward in drafting the new Standard.

The new Standard will provide guidance consistent with the interests of society and sustainable development. It is based on ethical behaviour and compliance with applicable law and intergovernmental instruments.

ISO, the International Organization for Standardization, has been working on the development of this International Standard since 2005 with specific provisions having been made to ensure developing countries have been appropriately represented.

The Sydney meeting, hosted by Standards Australia, is the fourth to deal specifically with the issue and will further refine the draft Standard scheduled to be finalised next year.

Mr John Tucker, CEO Standards Australia, said the meeting was an important step forward in developing a Standard that could be used by all organisations to put in place practical and achievable social responsibility policies.

“Some of Australia’s biggest banking, insurance and mining companies are leading the world in developing socially responsible policies,” Mr Tucker said.

“This new Standard will be an important starting point for organisations that don't have the resources to develop their own policies, to put in place similar programs.

“Organisations, big and small, have an obligation to go beyond providing profits for shareholders.

“They must also take responsibility for the impact of their activities on society and the environment, and take into consideration their impact on all stakeholders,” Mr Tucker said.

The Standard will also help small enterprises identify issues associated with the origin of production materials and ethical investment funds.

The Standard is being developed by the ISO Working Group on Social Responsibility that includes 61 ISO member countries, along with 34 international organisations from the public or private sector.

It is also being developed in cooperation with the United Nations Global Compact Office (UNGCO) – an international initiative that has brought together UN agencies, labour and civil society to support universal environmental and social principles.

The meeting was one of the first APEC associated events leading up to September’s Heads of Government meeting.

MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR MINING MEETING

Through President Tanaka, ISO was invited by the Hon. Ian Macfarlane MP, Chairman of the APEC Ministers Responsible for Mining Meeting (MRM3), to participate in the Ministers Responsible For Mining Meeting Perth meeting.

CEO of Standards Australia, John Tucker, attended this meeting on behalf of ISO, and participated in the Stakeholder Dialogue with Ministers, joined the delegation to observe the Ministers’ meeting and participated in the formal dinner.

The Stakeholder Dialogue with Ministers provided the opportunity to commend ISO International Standards to APEC Mining Ministers, mining industry leaders, mining company CEOs, NGO's and other stakeholders in the context of:

- good regulatory practice, voluntary alternatives to regulation and WTO TBT Code compliance; and
- the current development of an International Standard for Social Responsibility.

The agenda for the Stakeholder Dialogue with Ministers had four components:

- Global Supply and demand;
- Regulation;
- Business facilitation; and
- Environmental/Social issues.

Standards in support of multi-stakeholder solutions

In response to a call from a global mining company delegate for APEC to explore mechanisms to support "multi-stakeholder solutions", John Tucker took the opportunity to thank the Chairman on behalf of ISO for the opportunity to participate in the meeting and to commend the ISO International Standards framework to Ministers and delegates as an inclusive, consultative development process to achieve open, transparent, balanced, consensus-based solutions.

APEC recognises the importance of internally harmonised, globally relevant standards and demonstrates this through the work of its Standards and Conformance Subcommittee (SCSC) on good regulatory practice and through the active and ongoing interest by APEC's Business Advisory Council (ABAC). These standards are flexible and efficient in that they may be:

- voluntary or mandatory;
- alternatives to regulation or called up in part or in whole into law;
- 'deemed to comply' solutions or performance based; and
- called up, updated or set aside to support best regulatory practices.

Strong Track Record of International Standards in Mining

In commending the role of standards to APEC Mining Ministers, Mr Tucker spoke to their strong track record in delivering test methods, systems, solutions and associated high value benefits to the highly globalised and consolidated mining industry, including by way of examples:

- assay methods to support metalliferous and coal supply chains;
- risk and OHS management systems, including safety for mining equipment, standards for personal protective equipment and clothing, electrical and intrinsic safety standards;
- environmental management systems, including life cycle assessment and greenhouse gas validation and verification standards; and
- water and energy demand management standards.

Standards, Social Responsibility and Opportunity for Knowledge Transfer from Mining Industry Best Practice Case Studies in Sustainable Development

Mr Tucker reported that earlier this year, with support from the Chairman the Hon. Ian Macfarlane's Australian industry department (DITR), Standards Australia had proudly hosted the most recent meeting of the ISO Working Group on Social Responsibility involving more than 300 international experts and more than 40 international organisations. ISO provided financial support to assist representatives from developing economies to participate in the meeting and an associated workshop on social responsibility.

Given the global importance of social responsibility, it is pleasing that ISO, its members and their representatives in a secretariat led by Brazil and Sweden, and in co-operation with the UN Global Compact, ILO, NGOs and other civil society stakeholders, report good progress on the path to development of an International Standard for Social Responsibility.

The capital-intensive, global mining industry has been heavily focused on social responsibility and the business case for sustainable development for well over a decade, driven by continuous improvement practices to secure licenses to operate, technological innovation, increasing political expectations, community consultation and associated rises in regulatory requirements. As such, the mining industry has made great strides and is developing its track record in applied social responsibility. There is much that other sectors and developing economies can learn from the mining industry's best practice case studies. Mr Tucker proposed that the international standards framework provides an ideal vehicle for such knowledge transfer and commended ISO's Social Responsibility initiative and overarching international standards framework to delegates on behalf of ISO and its member National Standards Bodies.

Conclusion

International Standards are consistent with and are encouraged by World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules in order to avoid technical barriers to trade. Mr Tucker foreshadowed that ISO and IEC are intending to publish guidance on the use of ISO/IEC standards in support of technical regulations and in compliance with WTO TBT Code rules. He offered that ISO would be pleased to provide copies of this Guide to APEC Mining Ministers and stakeholder delegates present at this dialogue once finalised later this year.

NEW YARDSTICK FOR GI CLAIMS

In a world first, a new Australian Standard designed to measure the glycemic index (GI) of foods, released in January, will play an important role in ensuring nutrition and health claims made on food labels can be trusted.

GI measures the difference between carbohydrates according to their effect on blood glucose levels.

Low GI carbohydrates produce smaller fluctuations in blood glucose and insulin levels and reduce the long-term health risks of diabetes. Low GI diets can also improve weight loss and cardiovascular disease risk.

The new Australian Standard, produced by Standards Australia, for the first time sets out a recognised scientific method to determine the GI of foods. The Australian Standard for GI has been submitted to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for potential adoption by other member countries around the world as an International Standard.

Mr John Tucker, Standards Australia CEO, said the new Australian Standard would set a recognised yardstick consumers and food producers can use to guarantee the GI claims of their products.

“Consumers looking for healthy foods need to be confident the claims made by food manufacturers on their labeling are accurate,” Mr Tucker said.

“Historically, not all GI values on food labels have been reliable with some claims based on extrapolation or inappropriate methodology.”

“A national Standard, prepared by an independent body like Standard Australia, provides an alternative to industry using different in-house methods to obtain the GI value of a food,” Mr Tucker said.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), monitors and investigates any deceptive practices in relation to GI values on food labels.

Low GI foods include:

- Wholegrain breakfast cereals based on oats, barley and psyllium;
- Breads with whole grain kernels, stone-ground flour, sour dough;
- Most fruits and vegetables (not potatoes);
- Basmati or Doongara rice;
- Pasta, noodles, quinoa;
- Legumes and dahls.

The new Australian Standard will be made available to regulators and could be referenced in the Food Standards Code of the Australia New Zealand Food Authority.

NEHTA AND STANDARDS AUSTRALIA FORMALISE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS TO ADVANCE E-HEALTH STANDARDS

The National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) and Standards Australia have developed a detailed collaborative framework for the development of e-health standards in Australia.

NEHTA provides a vehicle for the Australian, State and Territory Governments to focus on recommending critical standards, specifications and services that will underpin the delivery of interoperable e-health systems on a national scale.

Standards Australia, by bringing together Australian and international technical experts, business, academia, government and the community, builds broad consensus by facilitating the development of Australian Standards for primary application within organisations.

Since its inception in 2005, NEHTA has worked closely with Standards Australia to promote coordination and collaboration. This agreement recognises the respective roles of NEHTA and Standards Australia in establishing e-health standards, and details the mechanisms by which both organisations will continue to work together.

NEHTA CEO, Dr Ian Reinecke, describes the agreement with Standards Australia as an operating framework for the continuation of what has been a highly productive relationship between the two organisations.

“We have been working with Standards Australia, their IT-014 Committee for Health Informatics, various subcommittees and working groups and have found them to be highly constructive and critical to the national e-health standards agenda,” Dr Reinecke said.

“This agreement makes the nature of our working relationship clear for all e-health stakeholders,” Dr Reinecke said.

John Tucker, Standards Australia's CEO, said the creation of health informatics standards is critical for the success of efficiently gathering, storing, retrieving and classifying recorded information across the broad range of health and medical fields.

"Both NEHTA and Standards Australia have been working together for some time to assist Australian health authorities, service providers, institutions, information technology vendors and software developers in this area," said Mr Tucker.

"This agreement formally expresses the role of each organisation, and how we will cooperate and collaborate to expedite this work which has significant public interest implications," Mr Tucker said.

Key elements in the NEHTA-Standards Australia *Working Together* agreement include:

- Regular and open dialogue on policy directions, agendas and developments occur between NEHTA and Standards Australia at senior executive level;
- NEHTA's commitment to International and Australian Standards where they are fit for purpose or can be made fit for purpose in the light of new requirements;
- Standards Australia's support for the e-health agenda is a national interest objective;
- NEHTA's intent to pass on technical specifications that become candidates for progression to Australian Standards;
- Collaborative work program planning to ensure that gaps and overlaps are avoided;
- Bi-directional advice and feedback on issues associated with standardisation within Australia and internationally; and
- Coordination of stakeholder engagement and standards development activities wherever feasible to promote optimal utilisation of the pool of available resources.

The *Working Together* agreement complements NEHTA's latest publication, *Supporting National E-Health Standards Implementation*. This document provides guidance to those responsible for improving healthcare delivery through information technology, by clarifying the strategies and activities that will assist in resolving the challenges to implementing e-health standards. Both documents can be found on NEHTA's website, www.nehta.gov.au.

PANEL SET TO HELP SMALL BUSINESS

Standards Australia, supported by COSBOA and the Australian Marketing Institute, will hold the inaugural meeting of the Small Business Advisory Panel on 13 March 2007.

This Panel, established by Standards Australia, will provide insights into the needs of small businesses and develop Business Performance Tools (BPTs) to assist them.

James Thomson, Standards Australia's Project Manager, said that hundreds of small businesses fail every year because of inadequate knowledge about managing their business.

"This project is about connecting small business needs to knowledge about business management.

"The project is dependent on two key elements for success, the first is the ability of the BPT document to help the reader solve a problem and the second is the degree of engagement with the small business community during BPT conception, development and distribution," Mr Thomson said.

Business Performance Tools are short, concise and easy to read documents that assist the small business reader to take a new action in a given area of business management. In addition, the BPT's will be designed to connect the reader to other supports, such as the Federal Government's Small Business Field Officer program, www.business.gov.au and to other State Government small business initiatives.

Mr Thomson said by tapping into a diverse group of small businesses and small business supporting organisations around Australia, the Small Business Advisory Panel would ensure all BPT's are user friendly and would address specific needs.

Current work centres on a series of Business Performance Tools for marketing and market research. Once this series is completed the Panel will recommend to Standards Australia other areas of small business need that can be addressed by the Tools.

For further information please contact James Thomson Tel: 02 8206 6846, Em: james.thomson@standards.org.au

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA SIGNS MOU WITH THE CONSUMERS' FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

On Friday 8 September 2006, the CEO of Standards Australia Mr John Tucker and Ms Nicola Howell the Deputy Chair of the Consumers' Federation of Australia, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Consumers' Federation of Australia (CFA) and Standards Australia.

The MoU provides a basis for mutual co-operation between the two organisations in the development of Standards that deal with issues of consumer concern. It enables coordinated and co-operative arrangements between the parties to ensure that appropriate consumer input is available to foster the development of Standards.

CFA is the peak national body for consumer groups in Australia. Its objectives are to promote the interests of consumers, in particular low income and disadvantaged consumers through identifying areas in which interests of consumers are being adversely affected. The safety and welfare of consumers determines the priorities for involvement in the development of particular Standards.

INVITATION - STANDARDS AUSTRALIA NURSERY PRODUCT SAFETY FRAMEWORK FORUM

For the past 12 months Standards Australia has been assisting Commonwealth and State Governments improve regulatory efficiency. An example of this is the work Standards Australia has undertaken with Industry and Government on the Nursery Product Safety Framework (PSF), a risk based approach to nursery products standardisation. The PSF was developed in response to the 2006 Productivity Commission's review of the Australian Consumer Product Safety System.

Standards Australia will release the PSF in March 2007 for a 12 month pilot and is holding a forum on 28 March 2007 to provide an overview of the PSF and the pilot. Standards Australia would like to invite you to attend this event.

Speakers Include:

John Castles
Chairman - Standards Australia

John Tucker
Chief Executive Officer - Standards Australia

Tim Wain
Executive Director - Infant and Nursery Product Association of Australia

Nigel Ridgway
General Manager Compliance Strategies Branch - Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

Ian Scott
Chief Executive Officer - Kidsafe NSW

John Ashes
Research and Test Centre Manager – CHOICE

Rob Wise
Business Manager Quality Assurance and Customer Service - Funtastic

Mark Bezzina
Consultant – Standards Australia

Where:

The University of Melbourne
School of Enterprise
Green Lecture Theatre
1st Floor, 442 Auburn Road, Hawthorn Vic 3122

[Click here](#) for map

When:

Wednesday 28 March 2007
9:30am to 11:30am (9:00am for registration)

Registration:

There is no charge for this event. Please [click here](#) to register your details.
Registration closes Friday 23 March 2007.

Seating is limited, so register early. If you are not able to attend, please do not hesitate to forward this invitation to someone else from your organisation.

Top Australian Designs Announced as Finalists

What do a clever clothes peg, a waterless urinal, the Holden VE Commodore and an innovative bike lamp have in common? These products are all finalists in this year's Australian Design Awards, Australia's premier design awards.

Joining these diverse products in the competition for the top award are: a new racing block for yachting; an audio podcaster with broadcast sound quality; a self-service kiosk; a ceramic kettle; a 100% recyclable PET ceiling tile and soft floor product; a trailer-mounted auto pump; multi-angle drill; a rainwater filter and more.

The complete list of 32 finalists announced this week emerged from more than 90 shortlisted entries that were tested, pulled apart and scrutinised from every angle by an international panel of judges against a common set of criteria that included innovation, visual appeal, functionality, quality, ergonomics and safety.

Stephanie Watson, Manager of the Australian Design Awards said this year, there has been a real concentration on new products to deal with uniquely Australian concerns and major advances in product design to resolve persisting problems.

"This year, with the support of Sustainability Victoria we are also introducing a new award which recognises environmental sustainability in product design through the introduction of more stringent criteria gauging Reduction of Hazardous Substances [RoHS] compliance, sustainable design strategy and environmental impact," Ms Watson said.

"It is great to see industrial design being recognised for not only adding enjoyment to people's lives but for really making an environmental difference.

"Each year, through the Australian Design Awards we raise more awareness of the importance industrial designers play in solving problems, commercialising ideas, gaining that competitive edge and satisfying customers.

"Whether it be the redesign of the common household peg or a \$1 billion redevelopment of the VE Commodore, it is clear that businesses are really beginning to recognise the strategic importance of good design," said Ms Watson.

Benchmarking these Australian designs was a judging panel made up of the world's leading design experts including Don Tae Lee, Design Master at Samsung Engineering and Construction, Korea, Lars Erikson, Design Director of Electrolux Home Products, Asia-Pacific and Ben Wilson, Industrial Designer from Braun's FutureLab in Germany.

Asked to comment on the 90-odd products assessed during the week of final assessment, one judge said "Australia has a lively and diverse design capability as vast as our continent, from clever pegs to cars, frogmouths and gators, yakkas and monkey bars, jaws to jigolos, we have it all."

The 2007 Australian Design Awards received 200 entries across 12 categories from industry and emerging young designers. The Awards, including the 2007 Australian Design Award of the Year, will be announced on Friday 11 May 2007 at the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne.

Next year the Australian Design Awards will undergo a major transformation to cater for all professionally designed products sold on the Australian market regardless of where they were designed.

"This is an important change to the way we have been operating for the past 50 years and recognises that design is now well and truly a global activity," Ms Watson said.

More information:

Finalists can be viewed at www.designawards.com.au.

Stephanie Watson, Manager, Australian Design Awards, 02 8206 6092 or swatson@designawards.com.au

COMING UP

ANOTHER STANDARD BOTTLED

Did you know that some Australian Standards come in a 250g jar? These are known as a Certified Reference Material (CRM).

A Certified Reference Material is essentially a 250g sample of known characteristics that are used to check or calibrate instruments or to verify analytical methods. There are reference materials for iron ores, coke and alumina and even glass samples for use in the refractories industry.

Standards Australia is soon to release another Standard in a bottle - ASCRM 013-11 *Certified reference coal*.

ASCRM 013-11 *Certified reference coal* is derived from a much larger sample, the properties of which have been accurately determined and which are detailed in an accompanying Technical Report (TR2. 13-11).

Laboratories that need to check whether their procedures are being carried out correctly can obtain a CRM, analyse the results and compare them to the values recorded in the Technical Report. If the laboratory results agree with these values all is well; if not, then the laboratory knows that its procedures are at fault.

The coal used for ASCRM 013-11 was chosen because its characteristics are known to be stable over a long period of time and will not oxidise as quickly as others. Two large drums of this coal were sent to an accredited laboratory and allowed to stabilise in storage for several months before approximately 180kgs was crushed, air-dried and then pulverized to a nominal top size of 4mm. Further milling reduced the particle size to a nominal top size of 212µm. and the bottling process occurred at this stage, before the samples were sent to Standards Australia. Fifty jars were then selected at random and their contents were analysed in duplicate for moisture and ash as a final homogeneity check.

Thirty-one laboratories then analysed samples of the product in a test program arranged by a subsidiary of the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA), and the results of the coal properties analysed were subjected to a statistical program to achieve the certified results. These results, including the standard deviations of them, appear on a label that is adhered to each jar before they are sold by Standards Australia's publishers. Many of these samples are sold to reference material suppliers and laboratories overseas because of the reputation that the product is reliable.

So, you see, not all of Standards Australia's products are available as printed matter!

Committee: MN-001-01 Coal evaluation
Chair: Barry Isherwood
Projects manager: Bob Maynard
bob.maynard@standards.org.au

MATERIALS FOR THE THERMAL INSULATION OF BUILDINGS

Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand have jointly published an Amendment to AS/NZS 4859.1 Materials for the thermal insulation of buildings – General criteria and technical provisions.

Following public meetings held by the Australian Greenhouse Office and Australian Building Codes Board in 2006, it was recommended that an amendment be prepared to remove ambiguities for the testing, calculating and labelling of building insulation, include criteria for reflective insulation and extend the Standard to cover ducting and pipe insulation.

It was also acknowledged that computational methods would have to be accepted for reflective materials. It was therefore proposed that a consistent, rigorous set of operating assumptions should be incorporated within the Standard as a mandatory requirement so different types of products could be certified according to best practice using best available measurement and computational tools.

Standards Australia's / Standards New Zealand's joint Committee BD-058 on Thermal Insulation worked throughout 2006 to develop a set of critical assumptions that embodied generally applicable environmental and operating conditions within generalised building designs specific to Australia and New Zealand. These assumptions were incorporated in the Amendment as a new Appendix K to the Standard to facilitate comparison between different insulation systems that may be used in similar applications.

The Amendment allows for both, computational and direct measurement methodologies to be applied in determining the anticipated thermal performance of building insulation systems.

The changes to the Standard are not expected to increase the cost of building insulation. They are intended to provide more certainty and a more level playing field for the insulation product industry, benefiting both, users and suppliers of the products.

Committee: BD-058 Thermal Insulation
Chair: Roeland Ansems
Projects Manager: Otto Marr
otto.marr@standards.org.au

MARKING OF OVERHEAD CABLES

Standards Australia's Subcommittee EI-010-07, Power line Marking is currently revising two Australian Standards for marking of overhead lines for the safety of aircraft. This is due to the many changes in the industry including the use of aircraft for fire-fighting purposes and the use of global positioning systems to guide aircraft engaged in agricultural work.

The Standards being revised are:

- AS 3891.1-1991, *Air navigation - Cables and their supporting structures - Mapping and marking - Permanent marking of overhead cables and their supporting structures; and*
- AS 3891.2-1992, *Air navigation - Cables and their supporting structures - Mapping and marking - Marking of overhead cables for low-level flying.*

The revision of these Standards include consideration of:

- The minimum length of span to be marked;
- Allowance of and requirements for cheaper temporary markers;
- The use of geographic information systems;
- The size of cables requiring marking.

Public comment drafts DR 07094 and DR 07093 have been issued with the comment period closing on 10 April 2007.

Subcommittee: EI-010-07, Power line Marking
Chair: Philip Hurst
Projects Manager: Brian Lester
brian.lester@standards.org.au

STEEL PLATES FOR PRESSURE EQUIPMENT

The steel used within the Australian pressure equipment industry to build pressure vessels, boilers, oil refineries and chemical plants needs to be of the highest quality. It needs to be carefully tested to conform with material specifications in order to do the job required without fear of unexpected failures.

Despite a wide range of overseas specifications, the Australian pressure equipment industry has long relied upon the dependability of Australian steel, produced to Australian specifications, in Australian steel mills.

Standards Australia is currently revising AS 1548 Steel plates for pressure equipment. This Standard sets out requirements for the production of high-quality steel plates for the boiler and pressure vessel industries, including alloy chemistry, tensile and yield strengths at a range of temperatures, impact strengths, and heat treatment procedures.

The revision proposes, amongst other improvements, to update the material strength requirements to reflect international practice, which will allow Australian manufacturers to take better advantage of the strength of AS 1548 steel grades.

The Standards Australia technical committee ME-001-14, which includes experts working in pressure vessel fabrication, steel manufacturing, government, and research, plan to publish a draft for public comment in mid-2007.

Committee: ME-001-14: Pressure Equipment – Plates, bars, sections and forgings
Chair: Chris Killmore
Projects Manager: Philip Wood
philip.wood@standards.org.au

DRUGS OF ABUSE IN URINE

Standards Australia is currently revising AS/NZS 4308 Procedures for the collection, detection and quantitation of drugs of abuse in urine. This Standard was first published in 1995 and then revised in 2001 to provide a means of ensuring laboratory competence in the analysis of drugs of abuse for medico-legal purposes. It has been widely accepted by employer, employee groups, professional organisations and regulators

In recent times, the use of on-site drug testing has become commonplace in many industries. On-site screening tests perform an important role by rapidly identifying employees who may be affected by drugs and thus may not be fit to perform assigned tasks.

As these devices are often used as the sole screening test, it is imperative that devices conform to a minimum set of acceptable criteria, similar to that imposed on laboratory based screening tests.

Due for release in 2007, the revised Standard will include the provision for on-site testing as an acceptable screening technique, providing devices have cut-off concentrations equivalent to those used in the laboratory. Furthermore, users of these devices will need to use appropriate quality controls to ensure accuracy and consistency.

It is not intended that any controls introduced to assure the accuracy and repeatability of results should provide commercial advantage to any individual. Such controls are necessary to ensure that a person subjected to on-site testing is not disadvantaged by inaccurate results.

The revised Standard is designed to ensure world's best practice in the field of medico-legal drugs of abuse testing. The current format of AS/NZS 4308 as a single document will continue. This will ensure that all relevant information for collection, on-site or laboratory screening and the confirmatory testing is readily accessible without the need to obtain multiple documents.

Committee:	CH-036-01 Drugs of abuse in urine
Chair:	Dr John Lewis.
Projects Manager:	Patricia L Carreto patricia.carreto@standards.org.au

NEW PROJECTS

Here is a selection of New Projects that Standards Australia is embarking on. View the full list of new projects visit [click here](#)

Inspection of buildings - Timber pest inspections

Committee: BD-085
Project Number: 8406
Project Manager: Ahshanur Rashid
Revision of: AS 4349.3-1998
Product Type: Australian Standard
Objective: To revise existing Standard.

Composts and associated products

Committee: CS-037
Project Number: 8472
Project Manager: Chandima Nawela
Revision of: AS 4454-2003
Product Type: Australian Standard
Objective: To revise and update AS 4454 considering the latest information based on recent research activities and industry experiences gathered while implementing the current standard.

Electromagnetic door holders

Committee: CS-082
Project Number: 8407
Project Manager: Ahshanur Rashid
Revision of: AS 4178-1994
Product Type: Australian Standard
Objective: To revise current standard.

Electrical equipment for coal and shale mines - Electrical protection devices, Part 1: General requirements

Committee: EL-023
Project Number: 8401
Project Manager: Peter Meyer
Revision of: AS/NZS 2081.1:2002
Product Type: Joint Standard SA/SNZ
Objective: To update the Standard by taking into account advances in electrical protection technology to achieve an improved level of machine protection and personnel safety in coal mines.

Adjustable speed electrical power drive systems, Part 1: General requirements - Rating specifications for low voltage adjustable speed d.c. power drive systems

Committee: EL-027
Project Number: 8396
Project Manager: Jahanzeb Rahman
Product Type: Australian/International Standard
Objective: To align the Standard with IEC requirements in order to reflect current technology.

Alarms for the hearing impaired

Committee: FP-002
Project Number: 8386
Project Manager: Helen Noonan
Product Type: AS Supplement
Objective: To provide warning of smoke and fire to hearing-impaired persons.

Acoustic emission testing of fibreglass insulated booms on elevating work platforms

Committee: MT-007
Project Number: 8452
Project Manager: Greg Langtry
Revision of: AS 4748-2001
Product Type: Australian Standard
Objective: To revise the procedure for testing fibreglass insulated booms.

Heavy duty towing components, Part 1: 70 mm and 110 mm diameter towballs for heavy duty couplings

Committee: ME-053
Project Number: 8027
Project Manager: Angelo Di Giunta
Revision of: AS 3819.1-1989
Product Type: Australian Standard
Objective: To ensure full interchangeability of couplings on trailers throughout the medium and heavy transport industry.

Knowledge-based identity verification

Committee: IT-012

Project Number: 8200

Project Manager: Andrew Caswell

Product Type: Australian Standard

Objective: To provide the Australian community with an electronic framework for the use of electronic identity credentials, as an alternative to face-to-face identity authentication.

Security techniques - IT network security, Part 1: Network security management

Committee: IT-012

Project Number: 8408

Project Manager: Andrew Caswell

Product Type: Australian/International Standard

Objective: To adopt ISO/IEC 180281-1 to provide IT professionals and general line management with detailed guidance on the planning, installation and ongoing maintenance of IT networks.

DRAFTS

An important stage in the development of an Australian Standard® is the Public Comment period. Here is a selection of Draft Standards currently up for comment. View the full list of Draft Standards at www.standards.org.au.

DR 07019 – 16 Mar 07

Planning For Emergencies. [Click here to view the draft.](#)

DR 07104 CP – 21 Mar 07

Information technology - Security techniques - Key management - Part 3: Mechanisms using asymmetric techniques

DR 07117 CP – 23 Mar 07

Diesel engine systems for underground coal mines - Part 1: Fire protected - Heavy duty

DR 07116 CP – 23 Mar 07

Refractories and refractory materials - Physical test methods - Part 9: Determination of resistance to the disintegrating effect of carbon monoxide

DR 07115 CP – 23 Mar 07

Refractories and refractory materials - Physical test methods - Part 28: Ceramic fibre products - Test methods

DR 07114 CP - 23 Mar 07

Refractories and refractory materials - Physical test methods - Part 26: Creep in compression - Deformation under constant load and constant temperature

DR 07118 CP – 28 Mar 07

Controlled environments - Part 3: Biological safety cabinets class III - Design

DR 07106 – 12 Apr 07

Coal preparation - Part 3: Magnetite for coal preparation plant use - Test methods

DR 07096 – 18 Apr 07

Paints for steel structures - Part X: Polysiloxane coating

DR 07097 – 18 Apr 07

Paints for steel structures - Part 12: Alkyd/micaceous iron oxide

DR 07098 – 18 Apr 07

Paints for steel structures - Part 6: Full gloss polyurethane (two pack)

DR 07119 – 18 Apr 07

Controlled environments - Part 6: Clean workstations - Design, installation and use