

NEWS

PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION RELEASES DRAFT REPORT INTO STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

The Federal Government's Productivity Commission has recommended Standards Australia remain Australia's peak standards development organisation and Commonwealth funding continue at current or increased levels.

The Productivity Commission has released its draft report into the relationship between Standards Australia and the Federal Government.

Mr John Tucker, CEO of Standards Australia, said while the Commission has raised some important issues the draft review is very positive.

"Standards Australia welcomes this draft report and looks forward to meeting with the Commission and Government to discuss its recommendations."

Key recommendations in the draft report include:

- Standards Australia continuing as Australia's peak non-government standards development body;
- Maintaining or increasing current Commonwealth funding for Australian participation in international standardisation activities including additional money for consumer and industry group involvement;
- Additional funding for Standards Australia to provide low cost access to all Australian Standards referenced in regulation;
- Continued adoption of international standards, where appropriate, ahead of the development of new Australian Standards;
- Funding for Standards Australia to provide technical input and information into Government co-coordinated regulatory impact statements;
- Improving the balance of interests represented on committees including increasing representation from small business, consumer and other community groups;
- Reducing the barriers to volunteer participation by reducing the cost of involvement and, where appropriate, provide funding to volunteer organisations;
- Strengthening the Standards Australia appeals and complaint mechanisms.

Mr Tucker said Standards Australia would provide the Productivity Commission with a comprehensive response to the Commission's 16 recommendations within the next few weeks.

"It is pleasing many of the recommendations, including increased partnership arrangements and better use of technology, are reflected in the major reforms currently underway at Standards Australia," Mr Tucker said.

The final report is expected to go to Federal Treasurer, Peter Costello and the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Ian Macfarlane in November.

Report available at <http://www.pc.gov.au/study/standards/draftreport/index.html>

500 AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS TO BE CUT

To maintain a contemporary and relevant suite of Australian Standards, Standards Australia has embarked on a project to reassess approximately 2,000 Standards across all industry sectors that are more than 10 years old.

The project, which began in January of this year, aims to identify Standards that no longer serve a purpose to industry and community. Already 542 Standards have been identified for possible withdrawal.

The project, expected to take a further six months, will be carried out in consultation with committees and stakeholders to determine the most suitable course of action for each Standard. Options will be withdrawal, reconfirmation or revision.

John Tucker, Standards Australia's CEO said changes in technology, industry and community, quality, safety and environmental expectations have meant many of the Standards developed 10 to 15 years ago may no longer be useful.

"It is our intention to provide Standards that are relevant to industry and the community, and this means looking closely at the current suite and retiring those that are past their use by date.

"This project will also reduce the number of Standards making it easier for users to establish which ones they need and remove any confusion.

"Already we have earmarked 542 Standards for possible withdrawal, this includes 161 Standards from the Information Technology and Communications area and 144 environmental and consumer Standards," Mr Tucker said.

These Standards are listed on our website under "**Standards for withdrawal**" for a two-month public comment period.

Numbers of Standards withdrawn* by subject area

Building and Plumbing	67
Information Technology and Communications	161
Electrical	25
Environment and Consumer	144
Materials and Safety	108
Health	21
Management and business	16

*Please note that withdrawn Standards **do not** disappear and are **not** banned from use. They simply do not represent current technology and safety requirements, and are not maintained (revised or amended) by the committee.

Withdrawn and superseded Standards can still be purchased from the SAI Global web shop. A withdrawn Standard can still be used for servicing existing applications that were developed when the Standard was current. An analogy would be an old car and its repair manual. Neither are current or reflect current practice. However, use of the manual is completely valid when repairing the old vehicle. You could even use the manual to help machine new replacement parts.

HARD COPY STANDARDS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Around 8,500 Committee members work tirelessly to produce the more than 500 Australian Standards each year that set the guidelines for safe and reliable products.

To acknowledge their support, from 1 September 2006, Standards Australia will provide a free hard copy Standard to Committee members. Each member of the main Committee responsible and each member of the subcommittee or working group involved in the development of the standard will receive a copy.

An electronic copy of the Standard will continue to be available from the Committee website for the convenience of Committee members.

While being part of an Australian Standards development team has its own rewards – increased knowledge, stronger business networks, competitive advantage and knowledge that an Australian Standard has made the world a safe place – Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge Committee members support and recognise their significant input the standards development process.

SUNSETTING OF STANDARDS

To ensure Standards are maintained and kept up to date, Standards Australia's Sector Boards have agreed on setting a review cycle for Standards including a 'sunset' provision.

This move will see Australian Standards reviewed within a maximum of five years after their date of publication. The Technical Committee responsible for the Standard will carry out this review, or where the Committee has been disbanded using a review panel comprising a representative and balanced group of nominating organisations.

Reviews can also be triggered by other factors, e.g. a special request of a representative group of users or regulators.

The review will result in the Standard either being reconfirmed for a further five-year period, or a revision to be undertaken. Where the Standard is no longer necessary it will be withdrawn.

The timeframe for revisions will be limited to three years after which the Standard will be automatically withdrawn.

Standardisation Guide 1 (SG1) sets out the process for developing Standards, including their revision. A draft revision of SG 1 that takes account of the new revision schedule and some other minor matters is available for public comment from the Standards Australia [website](#). Comments will close on 2 October 2006.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF BUILDING INDUSTRY STANDARDS

The building industry has expressed concerns over the number of Standards that are a part of the Building Code of Australia.

To address this, Standards Australia and the Australian Building Codes Board have recently finalised arrangements for a new assessment process to determine the value of developing new Standards or revising or amending existing primary and secondary Standards referenced in the Building Code of Australia.

This new process assesses, in accordance with the Office of Regulation Review criteria, the value of a Standard to the industry against the cost of implementing it, and its contribution to making buildings safe and cost effective. The process will be in the form of a preliminary impact assessment, which will be applied when an existing Standard comes up for revision or amendment.

STANDARDS AND LEGISLATION

Working out where a Standard appears in legislation can be a challenge – particularly since there are often differences in requirements across the different states and jurisdictions.

To help locate the Standards and the legislation they appear in, Standards Australia has entered into an agreement with the legal and government regulation search engine, Australasian Legal Information Institute (AustLII).

Under the agreement AustLII has developed search capabilities to allow users on the Standards Australia website to search for references to Australian Standards in legislation and case law.

Stage one of this facility is now available free on the Standards Australia **website**.

Further enhancements are being developed to enable searching by subject title and on trade lines. It should be noted that Codes that are referenced in legislation, such as the Building Code of Australia and the Food Standards Code are not included in this search facility.

DRAFT CIGARETTE STANDARD DESIGNED TO REDUCE FIRE RISK

The sale of reduced fire risk cigarettes in Australia is a step closer with the release of a draft Australian Standard to test the performance of specially designed low fire risk cigarettes.

These cigarettes, known as reduced fire risk (RFR) cigarettes, were made compulsory in New York State in June 2004 and in Canada in 2005. California will introduce similar laws next year.

Some RFR cigarettes in the US use paper banding - the application of ultra-thin paper bands, known as 'speed humps', along the length of the cigarette that stop the cigarette from burning when not being puffed.

While the new Standard doesn't spell out how the cigarette should be manufactured it puts in place a test method, using a lit cigarette lying on a material designed to represent furniture materials, that determines if a cigarette is less likely to stay alight.

The draft Standard has been developed in association with the NSW Fire Brigade, the tobacco industry, fire protection industry and scientists.

Brandon Gien, Director of Design and Communications for Standards Australia said the draft Standard was an important step forward in protecting life and property from fires caused by cigarettes.

"According to a national review conducted by the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) in the eight years between 1996/97 and 2003/04, 48 of the 418 fire related deaths across Australia were directly linked to fires caused by cigarettes," Mr Gien said.

"The same review also found that more than 4,570 fires, 12 a day, are caused by cigarettes each year in Australia.

"We need to develop a Standard that reduces the risk of these types of fires and protects the community and fire fighters," Mr Gien said.

The new Standard follows successful lobbying by the NSW Fire Brigades, which resulted in the Federal Government's Australian Emergency Management Committee backing calls for a national standard for reduced fire risk cigarettes.

Representatives from AFAC, CSIRO, Australia's three major tobacco companies and other stakeholders have developed the draft Standard.

The Public can submit comments on the draft until October 6, 2006.

The Standard is expect to be finished by the end of the year and made available to state and Federal lawmakers for possible inclusion in legislation.

A recent study by the Harvard School of Public Health into the sale of RFR cigarettes in New York State found:

That while not perfectly self-extinguishing, New York cigarettes were far less likely to burn to the end than other cigarettes;

No evidence that the already highly toxic nature of cigarette smoke is increased;

The sale of RFR cigarettes appeared to have no effect on already established sales figures, indicating consumer acceptance; and

Industry objections to RFR cigarettes are unfounded.

The draft Standard, DR 06483 - Determination of the extinction propensity of cigarettes, is available on the Standards Australia website at www.standards.org.au

NEW APPROACH TO PRODUCT SAFETY FOR INFANTS

Standards Australia and the Infants and Nursery Products Association of Australia (INPAA) will work together to produce and trial new safety guidelines for nursery products that deal with specific safety hazards rather than specific products.

The new guidelines will deal with issues such as entrapment, toxicity, the use of small components, latches, clips, harnesses, sliding panels, gates and other possible dangers associated with nursery products.

John Tucker, CEO Standards Australia said the work being undertaken by Standards Australia and INPAA would go a long way to ensuring all manufacturers are able to produce safe nursery equipment.

“Traditionally safety standards have been developed for new infant products as they have come on the market,” Mr Tucker said.

“Using this approach we are able to isolate the possible hazards that could be built into nursery products and put guidelines in place to deal with them.

“We are looking at introducing guidelines to deal with specific dangers such as children getting their heads or hands trapped, latches on sliding gates, and harnessing systems.

“This approach will allow safety standards to keep pace with new products coming on the market,” Mr Tucker said.

The changes are in line with recent recommendations from the Productivity Commission calling for consumer products safety standards to address essential safety issues leaving other design issues to voluntary standards.

Mark Bezzina, Executive Director of the National Standards Body (NSB) at Standards Australia said the new approach would be trialled for a year to determine its effectiveness and to compare it to existing standards.

“We will work with the industry, the community and regulators over the next year to see if this new approach receives across the board support,” Mr Bezzina said.

In 2005, unintentional injuries caused or contributed to more than 62,000 children being admitted to hospital with a further 190,000 treated in emergency departments. The most common unintentional injuries are caused by falls, poisoning, burns and scalds, passenger pedestrian and pedal cycle accidents.

In the product and equipment arena, the introduction of Standards has helped to reduce the number of unintentional injuries such as those caused by head and limb entrapment, and playgrounds.

It is expected a new handbook would be available by the end of the year.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA SECURITY FORUM

Over the last few months Standards Australia has been working with the Attorney General's Department to identify and clarify the security Standards requirements for the owners and operators of critical infrastructure.

On 19 July 2006, Standards Australia held a security forum, which profiled Australian Standards that have been developed to assist our security industry create a safer Australia. It featured those under development and those that have recently been published to assist owners and operators of critical infrastructure protect their assets and the community.

The forum was held at the Sydney Opera House and was attended by over 190 government and industry security experts.

Speakers included The Hon. Philip Ruddock MP, Attorney-General, Mr Chris Allen, Head of Security, Sydney Opera House, and Mr Geoffrey Askew, Head of Group Security, Qantas Airways Limited. The topics explored included Risk Management, Logical Security & Identity Management and Personnel and Physical Security.

During the morning session Standards Australia Chairman, John Castles AM launched the following security related standards:

Employment Screening

AS 4811-2006 – *Employment Screening*

CCTV Standards

AS 4806.1-2006 - *Closed circuit television (CCTV) - Management and operation*

AS 4806.2-2006 - *Closed circuit television (CCTV) - Application guidelines*

AS 4806.3-2006 - *Closed circuit television (CCTV) - PAL signal timings and levels*

Business Continuity Management

HB 292-2006 - *A practitioners guide to business continuity management*

HB 293-2006 - *Executive guide to business continuity management*

Information Technology

ISO 10015 - *Quality Management - Guidelines for training*

AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17799:2006 - *Information technology - Security techniques - Code of practice for information security management*

AS/NZS ISO/IEC 27001:2006 - *Information technology - Security techniques - Information security management systems - Requirements*

The PowerPoint Presentations from Session One and Two are now available on the Standards Australia website and can be accessed by using this [link](#).

A closed session was held in the afternoon. This session was by invitation only to participants of the Security Standards and Support Systems Project Survey and reported on the findings of the confidential draft Security Report.

Feedback on the forum was extremely positive. Sponsorship from the Attorney General's Department, GHD and Thales ADI- Limited was instrumental in making the day a great success.

ISO WORKING GROUP ON SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Social responsibility is seen as one of the three pillars of sustainability, along with environmental and financial responsibility. To enable social responsibility to be more easily integrated into business activities, ISO is developing an International Standard on the subject and has created a special working group of around 330 individual experts drawn from a range of interest groups to draft the standard.

Standards Australia will be hosting the third meeting of the working group in Sydney from 27 January to 2 February 2007. This meeting will form part of Standards Australia's activities to support the Australian Government's hosting of APEC in 2007 and the potential impact of such a standard on some of the less developed economies in APEC has already been flagged as something to be closely watched. On the one hand, it could may provide a useful tool for developing economies to implement as part of a program of improving social conditions; or alternatively, it could simply become a barrier to trade.

Of course, there is already an Australian Standard on Corporate Social Responsibility, AS 8003 – 2003; however, the implications of the proposed International Standard for Australia could be much more far-reaching, particularly if demonstrating compliance becomes a prerequisite for doing business internationally. While the direction from the ISO Technical Management Board was to develop a guidance document, ie one that isn't suitable for certification, the development process seems to be taking on a life of its own.

This is the first time that ISO has sought to use a process based on finding consensus between six identified stakeholder groups, rather than consensus between national member bodies. With such a large group of participants, most of whom have little previous exposure to ISO, and a set of procedures for finding consensus that are being developed in parallel with the Standard, this is a particularly complex project.

The Sydney meeting, which includes an APEC workshop, will provide an opportunity for Australian stakeholders to better understand and influence the direction of the International Standard to avoid the potential pitfalls and ensure a sensible and practical guidance document that will be of use to businesses of all sizes. This meeting comes at a time when the working group is moving from the planning stage to actually producing draft text of the Standard, so it provides an ideal opportunity for Australia to have its say.

REWARDING INSPIRED DESIGN

2007 Australian Design Awards – Call For Entries

A portable sleep apnea device, swim goggles designed specifically for triathletes, a state-of-the-art blood pump and a rechargeable cordless table lamp outrivalled the competitors at last year's Australian Design Awards. What inspired new designs will 2007 unearth?

The Australian Design Awards, a division of Standards Australia, has again opened its doors and will be accepting entries for the 2007 Australian Design Awards from 14 September 2006.

Manager of the Australian Design Awards, Stephanie Watson says we are always amazed at the diverse range of products entered into the Australian Design Awards each year.

“From basic inventions to ground-breaking medical devices and innovative textile submissions – the Australian Design Awards attracts a real assortment of work,” said Stephanie.

“Entries come from a range of sources including industrial designers, engineers, entrepreneurs, manufacturers and emerging young designers, both big and small.

“The Australian Design Awards provides a low-cost launch pad for designers to seek that much needed competitive edge.

“Since the announcement of the 2006 Award winners earlier this year we have had reports of: winning products being picked up in the UK, US and European markets; increase in sales; job offers to student winners; a selection of winners being put on show at the Powerhouse Museum; and far reaching media coverage which has helped promote these great designs and designers.

“Accepting entries into the program is one of the most exciting stages of the annual calendar. We never know what each year will deliver, whether it be the next Victa lawnmower or bionic ear,” said Stephanie.

Entry covers a broad range of industry sectors including:

- Consumer
- Business and Technology
- Medical and Scientific
- Automotive and Transport
- Sport and Leisure
- Housing and Building
- Agriculture and Heavy Machinery
- Public Spaces
- Furniture and Lighting
- Materials and Textiles Innovation
- Packaging and Point of Sale
- Student

For more information or to enter online, visit: www.designawards.com.au or call: 02 8206 6090.

CLOSING DATES:

Industry – 17 November 2006
Student – 24 November 2006

ROAD TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Over recent years we have all become familiar with the seemingly ubiquitous flashing arrow roadside signs indicating a temporary merging of lanes.

In response to requests from within the road construction and maintenance industry, Standards Australia Committee LG-006 Road Traffic Signals, has recently revised the Standard specifying the appearance and visual performance of these essential safety signs. The revision covers units employing newer technologies such as Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs).

The resulting revision of AS/NZS 4192 *Illuminated flashing arrow signs* is flexible enough to be applied to signs employing virtually any light source while preserving all essential aspects of the appearance.

The new edition also recognises the diversity of uses and applications in which these signs are now employed.

Significant changes in this edition include the following:

- replacement of prescribed Parabolic Aluminized Reflector (PAR) lamp light sources with performance-based requirements for colour and luminous intensity;
- the introduction of detailed photometric and colourimetric measurement procedures;
- the definition of two size categories and two luminous intensity categories to be applied to any illuminating element used in a sign;
- the specification of maximum viewing distance based on the intensity of element used, rather than only on sign size; and
- the choice of large or small elements (of specified luminous intensity) on the different sized signs specified in the Standard.
- Revision of AS/NZS 4192 *Illuminated flashing arrow signs* is due for publication in October 2007.

Committee: LG-006 Road Traffic Signals
Chair: Barry Jan
Projects Manager: Philip Kenny
philip.kenny@standards.org.au

INDUCTIVELY COUPLED PLASMA–MASS SPECTROMETRY (ICP-MS)

Standards Australia's Committee CH-016 Spectroscopy, has recently completed Part 1 of the series AS 4873 *Recommended Practice for Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) – Part 1: Principles and Technique* and is currently working on Part 2: Quantitative determination.

Inductively Coupled Plasma–Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) is considered a robust method of analysis, capable of analysing numerous types of analytical samples including waters, urines, digests of foods, soils and minerals to name just a few examples. ICP-MS is capable of detecting and quantifying most of the chemical elements and a major attraction to this technique is its multi-element capability and low detection limits, typically sub-micrograms per litre.

The primary objective of Standards Australia committee CH-016, was to provide users with a clear understanding of the principles and techniques of ICP-MS. Part 1 of the AS 4873 - *Inductively Coupled Plasma–Mass Spectrometry* series of Standards covers instrumentation, interferences, optimisation of the instrument, method development, analysis and quality assurance. A comprehensive glossary of terms used in ICP-MS is also included. It deals with ICP-MS instruments with quadrupole mass analysers, although a brief mention of other available mass analysers including magnetic sector and time-of-flight is made. The use of accessories such as collision/reaction cells, laser ablation etc linked to ICP-MS instruments is also briefly mentioned.

Part 2 of the AS 4873 series *Recommended practice for Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry – Part 2: Quantitative determination*, is anticipated to be completed in 2007.

Committee:	CH-016 Spectroscopy
Chair:	Dr Henry Olszowy
Projects Manager:	Patricia L Carreto patricia.carreto@standards.org.au

NON DESTRUCTIVE TESTING

Standards Australia's Committee MT-007-05 Radiation methods, is currently drafting a new Australian Standard AS 2168.1 *Non-Destructive testing—Computerised radiography, Part 1: Systems*, which specifies fundamental parameters of Computed Radiography (CR) systems.

With the aim of enabling satisfactory and repeatable results to be obtained economically, the techniques are based on both fundamental theory and test measurements. This Standard specifies the performance of computed radiography systems and the measurement of the corresponding parameters for the system scanner and storage phosphor imaging plate. It also describes the classification of these systems in combination with specified metal screens for industrial radiography.

This Australian Standard is intended to ensure that the quality of images conform with the requirements of Part 2: *Testing of metallic materials using X-rays and Gamma rays* of the document. It also relates to the requirements of film radiography as defined in AS 2177 *Non-destructive testing - Radiography of welded butt joints in metal*.

The Standard defines system tests at different levels and more complicated tests are described which allow the determination of exact system parameters. They can be used to classify the systems of different suppliers and make them comparable for users. These tests are specified as manufacturer tests.

The quality of computed radiography image including geometrical un-sharpness signal/noise, scatter and contrast sensitivity factors can be determined most accurately by the manufacturer tests. Individual test targets, which are recommended for practical user tests, are also described for quality assurance.

The committee expects the Standard to be published by February 2007.

Committee: MT-007-05 Radiation methods
Chair: Angelo Zaccari
Projects Manager: Greg Langtry
greg.Langtry@standards.org.au

REPAIRING DUMP TRUCK TYRES

As a companion to the revised Australian Standard for the maintenance and repair of wheels and rims used on off-the-road earth-moving machinery (to be AS 4457.1), an Australian Standard for the repair and maintenance of tyres fitted to those components is currently being developed.

With the price of a typical tyre used on dump trucks in the mining industry being approximately \$40,000 each, and the market prices up to \$100,000 each, the repair of these tyres has become a major secondary industry.

The repair of damaged tyres, and the importation of used dump truck tyres to be retreaded as a means to control mine site costs, has created a need for a Standard for the repair of tyres.

- The proposed Standard to be *AS 4457.2 Off The Road Wheels, Rims and Tyres* would include sections on:
- the internal and external inspection of the tyres to determine the extent of damage and necessary repairs;
- the repair of the tyres including the materials and adhesives used;
- the retreading of tyres;
- repair limits, environmental conditions and destruction of unrepairable tyres; and
- the marking of repaired tyres and their use after repair.

Working Group ME-063-00-01- Off The Road Wheels, Rims and Tyres is undertaking the task of developing the Standard and it has already created a lot of interest particularly from the mining industry. It is hoped that the public comment draft will be available by the end of 2006.

Committee: ME-063 Earthmoving Equipment
Chair: John Smith
Projects Manager: Bob Maynard
bob.maynard@standards.org.au

LIFTS, ESCALATORS AND MOVING WALKS

Standards Australia's Technical Committee ME-004 for Lifts, will be reviewing three parts of AS 1735 *Lifts, Escalators and moving walks*.

By reviewing this Standard the minimum level in safety for the Australian community will increase and also set the requirements for any new products developed. The parts of the Standards to be reviewed include:

- **AS 1735.3: 2002 *Passenger & good lifts***, which specifies requirements for electro-hydraulic lifts for carrying passengers, goods or both.

This part of the Standard is based on British and European Standards on Hydraulic lifts (BS EN 81-1:2000 Part 2: EN81-2/A2: 2005). Committee members have agreed to review the modified overseas Standard and where appropriate incorporate changes into the Australian Standard.

- **AS 1735.9: 1994 *Special purpose industrial lifts***, which sets out requirements for permanently installed special purpose industrial lifts that provide guided transportation of authorised personnel, their tools and equipment, and materials for maintenance of plant.

Committee members believe this Standard is due for review to ensure it continues to stay in step with current equipment being used.

- **AS 1735.15: 2002 *Low-rise passenger lifts - non automatically control***, specifies requirements for low-rise, low-speed lifts controlled by a continuous pressure control device.

This part of the Standard will be modified from being prescriptive to being performance-based in accordance with the Global Essential Safety Requirements and also enable harmonisation with the world's best practice.

The Committee welcomes any comments from interested parties.

Committee:	ME-004 for Lifts
Chair:	John Tibbitts
Projects Manager:	Michael Hourmozi michael.hourmozi@standards.org.au

FITTINGS FOR HIGH-VOLTAGE INSULATORS

Subcommittee EL-10-02, Fittings for insulators and conductors, a subcommittee of Standards Australia's Committee EL-010, *Overhead Lines* is revising Parts 1 and 2 of AS 1154 *Insulator and Conductor fittings for overhead power lines*.

The revisions to this Australian Standard will be as follows:

- AS 1154.1-2004 *Insulator and conductor fittings for overhead power lines - Performance, material, general requirements and dimensions* will include:
 - a rearrangement of the Standard so most of the information currently in Appendices is put in the body of the Standard to improve ease of use; and
 - a revision of the electrical heat cycle test to consider problems encountered with the current test.

- AS 1154.3-1985, *Insulator and conductor fittings for overhead power lines - Performance and general requirements for helical fittings* will include:
 - requirements for fittings for optical ground wire cables (OPGW) and fittings for all dielectric self-supporting cables (ADSS);
 - a proving test for glues used in helical fittings; and
 - a revision of a number of areas in which the Standard may have become outdated e.g. fittings for PVC cables, insulator neck sizes currently used in practice and electrical type tests for repair and protective fittings.

It is anticipated that public comment drafts for both AS 1154.1 and AS 1154.2 will be issued in the last quarter of 2006.

Subcommittee: EL-10-02, *Fittings for insulators and conductors*
Chair: Dan McGonigal
Projects Manager: Brian Lester
brian.lester@standards.org.au

AMENDMENT TO SAFETY IN HOUSE DESIGN

Due to recent accidents related to basketball rings and backboards, Committee CS-072 Safety in house design, has decided to release an amendment that will provide consumers with guidance for the safe installation of attachments to buildings including the installation of basketball rings. The advice on basketball rings has been derived from an initial guideline completed by the Building Commission in Victoria, who produced "Safe installation of basketball rings" in conjunction with other states, local government agencies and interest groups.

Committee: CS-072 Safety in house design
Chair: Graham Miller
Projects Manager: Celine De Sousa
celine.desousa@standards.org.au

OCCUPATIONAL DIVING

Committee SF-017 Occupational Diving, is currently finalising the revision of AS/NZS 2299.1:1999 *Occupational diving operations Part 1: Standard operational practice*, and AS 2815.5 on training for occupational dive supervisors. The next priorities are—

revision of the existing Parts of the AS 2815 series to update these 1992 editions to reflect current competency-based training and assessment approaches;

revision of AS/NZS 2299.2:2002 for scientific diving, mainly to acknowledge information concerning compression chamber support for diving operations gathered during the revision of AS/NZS 2299.1 and address the use of dive computers; and

commencement of a new series for the use of breathing gases other than air in occupational diving operations to promote awareness of the issues involved with such newer technologies, consistency in their use and consistency in the qualifications of the divers involved. The first part will cover oxygen-enriched gas mixtures.

Work on supplements to AS/NZS 2299.1 that will provide recommended formats for recording risk assessments and dive plans is also continuing. SF-017 would like readers to give drafts for these forms a trial run. These forms are being developed to promote the recording of all appropriate details of risk assessments and dive plans for occupational diving operations. Shortly, the forms will be available from the public area of the SF-017 **website**, and the Committee would appreciate it if they were downloaded and used. Comments on how they worked and how to improve them should be sent to the Projects Manager, Carol Foster, carol.foster@standards.org.au

The training working group (SF-017-00-01) met recently to revise AS 2815.1 on occupational SCUBA diver training. SF-017 will review the draft later in the year for release as a Draft for Comment in early 2007. The working group also decided that a restricted occupational SCUBA qualification (to replace the scientific SCUBA diver training currently in AS/NZS 2299.2) could not easily be provided within AS 2185.1 and has outlined the content of a draft for a new part to AS 2815 for this.

Committee:	SF-017, Occupational Diving
Chair:	Dr Ian Millar, Australian Medical Association
Projects Manager:	Carol Foster carol.foster@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](#).

BUILDING, UTILITIES & BUSINESS

AS/NZS 60745.2.5:2007 Hand-held motor operated electric tools – Safety – Part 2.5: Particular requirements for circular saws

Committee: EL-002

Project Number: 8047

Project Manager: Warren Miller

Revision of: AS/NZS 60745.2.5:2004

Product Type: Joint Standard SA/SNZ

Objective: To provide the safety of hand-held motor-operated or magnetically driven electric tools, specific requirements for all types of circular saws.

Amendment 2 to AS/NZS 60335.1:2002 Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety – Part 1: General requirements

Committee: EL-002

Project Number: 8041

Project Manager: Warren Miller

Product Type: Joint Standard Amendment SA/SNZ

Objective: To change for Amendment 2 - applies to Clauses 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 32 and Figure 7 and Annexes D, E, J, O, and Q and the Bibliography.

AS/NZS 60335.2.14:2007 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 2.14: Particular requirements for drives for kitchen machines

Committee: EL-002

Project Number: 8044

Project Manager: Warren Miller

Revision of: AS/NZS 60335.2.14:2004

Product Type: Joint Standard SA/SNZ

Objective: To provide requirements for the safety of electric kitchen machines, their rated voltage being not more than 250 V, for household and similar purposes

AS/NZS 60335.2.97:2007 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 2.97: Particular requirements for drives for rolling shutters, awnings, blinds and similar equipment

Committee: EL-002

Project Number: 8048

Project Manager: Warren Miller

Product Type: Joint Standard SA/SNZ

Objective: To provide for the safety of electric drives for rolling equipment such as shutters, blinds, and awnings, intended for household and similar purposes, their rated voltage being not more than 250 V for single-phase and 480 V for other appliances.

COMMUNITY, MATERIALS & IT STANDARDS

Cots for household use - Safety requirements

Committee: CS-003

Project Number: 7545

Project Manager: Chandima Nawela
Revision of: AS/NZS 2172:2003
Product Type: Joint Standard SA/SNZ
Objective: Revise facilitating effective implementation under TPA

Medical electrical equipment Part 2.8: Particular requirements for safety - Therapeutic X-ray generators.

Committee: HE-003
Project Number: 7413
Project Manager: Wayne O'Connor
Revision of: AS/NZS 3200.2.8
Product Type: Joint Standard
Objective: To review the current standard.

Sound laboratory practice in food and water microbiology laboratories - Part 2: Equipment, consumables (reagents, diagnostic kits), culture collection, sterilization & disinfection

Committee: FT-020
Project Number: 7823
Project Manager: Numani Weerasuriya
Product Type: Australian Standard
Objective: To elaborate on the principles that underpin the requirements of sound laboratory practice, to provide guidance on sound laboratory practice to ensure valid test results and safe operation in the areas of equipment, consumables, culture management, sterilization and disinfection.

Safety of toys- Part 11: Organic chemical compounds - Method of analysis

Committee: CS-018
Project Number: 8006
Project Manager: Suzanne Wellham
Product Type: Australian Standard
Objective: To specify methods for the analysis of toy and toy material extracts prepared to enable assessment of compliance with the chemical requirements.

Amendment 1 to AS 2542.2.2-2005 Sensory analysis-Specific methods-Triangle test

Committee: FT-022
Project Number: 7971
Project Manager: Numani Weerasuriya
Product Type: Australian Standard Amendment
Objective: To issue a correction to the Standard.

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 that are up for public comment at www.standards.org.au.

[DR 06448 – 19 Sept 06](#)

[The storage and handling of mixed classes of dangerous goods, in packages and intermediate bulk containers](#)

[DR 06493 – 20 Sept 06](#)

[Personal eye protection - Part 6: Prescription eye protectors against low and medium impact](#)

[DR 06447 CP – 22 Sept 06](#)

[Respiratory equipment - Particular requirements - Infant monitors](#)

[DR 06491 CP – 25 Sept 06](#)

[Amendment 2 to AS 4700.1-2005 - Implementation of Health Level Seven \(HL7\) Version 2.4 - Part 1: Patient administration](#)

[DR 06490 CP - 25 Sept 05](#)

[Geographical information systems - Bibliographical elements on maps](#)

[DR 06489 CP – 25 Sept 06](#)

[Information technology - Software asset management - Part 1: Processes](#)

[DR 06464 - 26 Sept 06](#)

[Automatic fire sprinklers systems - Part 5: Home fire sprinkler systems](#)

[DR 06463 – 3 Oct 06](#)

[Methods for the determination of transverse tensile properties of round steel pipe](#)

[DR 06483 – 6 Oct 06](#)

[Determination of the extinction propensity of cigarettes](#)

[DR 06485 – 12 Oct 06](#)

[Insulated bushings for alternating voltages above 1000 V \(IEC 60137, Ed. 5.0 \(2003\) MOD\)](#)