

Australian Standard™

**Plastics—Standard atmospheres for  
conditioning and testing**



**S t a n d a r d s** Australia

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee PL-010, Methods of Testing Plastics. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 27 October 2000 and published on 27 February 2001.

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The following interests are represented on Committee PL-010:

CSIRO-Building, Construction and Engineering  
Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association Corporation  
The Royal Australian Chemical Institute  
Telstra Corporation Limited

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee PL-010, Methods of Testing Plastics.

This Standard is identical to and is reproduced from ISO 291:1997, *Plastics—Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing*, and ISO 291:1997/Cor.1:1998.

The objective of this Standard is to provide testing agencies with a means of establishing an environment for testing of plastics.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

- (a) Its number does not appear on each page of text and its identity is shown only on the cover and title page.
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# Plastics – Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing

## 1 Scope

This International Standard sets out specifications relating to the conditioning and testing of all plastics and all types of test specimens at constant atmospheric conditions which correspond to the average atmospheric conditions in laboratories.

Special atmospheres applicable to a particular test or material or simulating a particular climatic environment are not included in this International Standard.

## 2 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definitions apply:

### 2.1 standard atmosphere

Preferred constant atmosphere for which specific air temperature and humidity values, as well as limit ranges for atmospheric pressure and air-circulation velocity, are specified, the air not having any significant additional constituents and the atmosphere not being subjected to any significant additional radiation influences.

NOTE 1: Standard atmospheres permit a defined state to be attained and maintained for samples or specimens.

NOTE 2: Standard atmospheres correspond to the average atmospheric conditions in laboratories and can be established in conditioning (controlled atmosphere) cabinets, chambers or rooms.

### 2.2 conditioning atmosphere

Constant atmosphere in which a sample or test specimen is kept before being subjected to test.

### 2.3 test atmosphere

Constant atmosphere to which a sample or test specimen is exposed throughout the test.

### 2.4 conditioning

One or more operations intended to bring a sample or test specimen into a state of equilibrium with regard to temperature and humidity.