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# Australian Standard 2400, Part 1—1981

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## SAA PACKAGING CODE Part 1—GLOSSARY OF PACKAGING TERMS



**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

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THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Department of Defence  
Department of Productivity  
Australian Fibre Box Industry  
Australian Institute of Packaging  
Canmakers Institute of Australia  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
Plastics Institute of Australia

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**SAA PACKAGING CODE**  
**Part 1**  
**GLOSSARY OF PACKAGING**  
**TERMS**

**AS 2400, Part 1—1981**

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## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Packaging Terminology at the request of the Packaging Standards Board. It supersedes AS Z47-1972, Glossary of Packaging Terms, and now forms Part 1 of the SAA Packaging Code.

In preparing this standard the committee was of the opinion that it was essential to provide the industry with a glossary that was not only practical to use and useful but also one that would concentrate on 'preferred' terms in order to discourage the use of alternative terms, some of which may be incorrect or misleading. To achieve these aims the committee resolved to provide —

- (a) a glossary of preferred (i.e. defined) terms alone (listed alphabetically); and
- (b) a listing of non-preferred terms (printed in italics) with cross-references to the associated preferred terms. It is suggested to the user, therefore, that if a particular term cannot be found in the glossary proper, reference be made to the listing.

The attention of the user is also drawn to the cross-references to other preferred terms associated with a preferred term, e.g. abrasion and attrition.

It was also the committee's view that the language used in explaining terms be such that, without introducing incorrect meanings, they could be understood by technical and non-technical personnel alike.

In the interest of uniformity, but with one significant exception, the term 'pack' is used in this glossary to denote the physical act of placing a product into a container, thus forming a package. The word 'package' and its derivatives is used throughout the glossary in the sense of applying a scientific approach to the function of protecting a product during handling, transport and storage. The significant exception concerns solely the Department of Defence which uses the word 'pack' in the particular sense that denotes a particular quality of a package, e.g. 'level B pack'. To identify this usage by the Department of Defence such terms are followed by the letters 'DEF' in parentheses, e.g. level B pack (DEF). Attention is also drawn to the term 'traypack' as used for the packaging of fruit.

Some terms used in the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods have been included and are followed by the letters 'ATAC Code' in parentheses, e.g. packaging (ATAC Code).

The editorial format of this glossary is such that the terms are listed alphabetically except where a term or terms fall within a generic group, e.g. 'chill-proof adhesive' will be found under 'adhesive'. Where this occurs the term of the generic group is listed first and

the modifier(s) indented. Each modifier is followed by or preceded by the symbol ~ to avoid repetition of the generic term, e.g. 'chill-proof adhesive' is shown as 'chill-proof ~'.

In this glossary reference has been made to the following standards and documents:

- AS 1216 Classification, Hazard Identification and Information Systems for Dangerous Goods
  - AS 1230 Glossary of Terms for Pressure Sensitive Adhesive Tapes
  - AS 1309 Glossary of Terms Used in the Adhesives Industry
  - AS 1886 Terms Relating to Plastics
  - AS 2484 Glossary of Fire Terms
  - AS Z61 Rheological Terminology and Classification of Properties Relating to the Deformation and Flow of Materials
- Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (prepared under the aegis of the Australian Transport Advisory Council)

The complete SAA Packaging Code will be in a number of different parts dealing with specific subjects, the preliminary list of which is as follows:

Part	Title
1	Glossary of Packaging Terms
2	Introduction to Packaging
3	Mechanical Aids in Packaging
4	Protection against Spoilage by Microorganisms, Insects, Mites and Rodents
5	Metal Protection
6	Paper and Board, Wrappers and Containers
7	Wooden Containers
8	Textile Bags, Sacks and Wrappings
9	Metal Containers
10	Cushioning Materials
11	Cordage
12	Adhesive Closing and Sealing Tapes
13	Tensional Strapping
14	Adhesives for Packaging
15	Glass Containers and Closures
16	Transparent Cellulose Film, Plastics Films, Metal Foils and Flexible Laminates
17	Plastics
18	Use of Desiccants in Packaging
19	Packaging for Air Freight
20	Handling of Goods in Freight Containers

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
**Australian Standard**  
**GLOSSARY OF PACKAGING TERMS**

Term	Definition
A	
abrasion	Effect of scuffing, scraping or rubbing by friction between two surfaces. <i>See also</i> attrition.
absorbency	That property of a material which causes it to take up liquids or vapours with which it is in contact.
absorbent	Material able to absorb.
accelerometer	An instrument, which may be included in packages or in shipments with packages, to record shock and vibration to which the packages are subjected. From its use a measure of the resistance to shocks or impact strength of the package may be derived. <i>See also</i> G factor.
acceptable quality level (AQL)	A quality level which corresponds to a specified but relatively high probability of acceptance; the maximum number of defects that can be considered satisfactory as a process average (expressed as a percentage). <i>See also:</i> AS 1199, Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes. AS 1399, Guide to AS 1199.
acceptance sampling plan	A procedure for accepting or rejecting supplies on the basis of AQL.
acceptance of testing	Testing carried out to determine whether an individual lot of material is in accordance with a specification.
acid	A group of substances having a pH value less than 7, which turn litmus paper red and which may be corrosive. <i>See also</i> pH.
acid drum	<i>See</i> drum, acid.
acid-free paper	<i>See</i> paper, acid-free.
acid-proof	Unaffected by acid ( <i>see also</i> acid resistant).
acid-resistant	Resistant to the action of acids under certain conditions.
across web	The transverse direction at an angle of 90 degrees to the machine direction of a web or sheet of flexible material. <i>See also</i> grain direction. NOTE: In the flexible packaging industry the term 'transverse direction' is used.
active ingredient	The component that produces the specific effect for which the product is designed.
actuator	Part of an aerosol valve which operates the valve mechanism and which controls and directs the product expelled.
additive	A substance added to base materials (usually in small proportions) with the object of imparting desirable properties, e.g. corrosion inhibition, wetting agent.
adherend	One of the bodies which is held together by an adhesive ( <i>see</i> substrate).
adhesion	The mechanism by which surfaces are held together by an adhesive; the attachment of two surfaces by inter-facial forces consisting of molecular or mechanical bonding forces, interlocking action or combination of these, e.g. the bond produced by the contact of a pressure sensitive adhesive to a surface to which it is applied. <i>See also</i> peel adhesion, adhesion to backing, unwind adhesion, shear adhesion, and quickstick. <i>See also</i> AS 1309.
mechanical ~	Adhesion between surfaces in which the adhesive holds the parts together by interlocking action and actual physical penetration.
peel ~	The force required to peel a strip of tape from a standard panel at a specified angle and speed.
specific ~	Adhesion between surfaces which are held together by valence forces (chemical bond) resembling the type which gives rise to adhesion.
unwind ~	The bond resisting the force required to remove tape from the roll. <i>See also</i> AS 1230.
adhesion to backing	The force required to remove a tape (in the same manner as peel adhesion) from its own backing to which it has been re-applied with a definite pressure after removal from the roll.
adhesive	A substance in liquid, paste or solid form capable of holding materials together by surface attachment. Also a general term including cement, glue, mucilage, paste, gum, starch, dextrin, casein. <i>See also</i> AS 1309. <i>See also</i> glue and gum.
assembly ~	An adhesive which can be used for bonding construction parts together, e.g. woodwork, model-making, metal assembly work or the like.
aqueous ~	An adhesive in which the vehicle is water.
casein ~	A protein based aqueous adhesive based upon casein derived from milk.
chill-proof ~	A loosely used term for an adhesive which maintains its adhesion under specific refrigerated conditions.
cold-setting ~	An adhesive which sets at room temperature without the application of external heat.