

Australian Standard™

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**The storage and handling of  
agricultural and veterinary  
chemicals**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CH/9, Safe Handling of Chemicals. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 30 October 1998 and published on 5 December 1998.

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The following interests are represented on Committee CH/9:

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Wholesalers Association  
Australasian Fire Authorities Council  
Australasian Railway Association  
Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association  
Australian Conservation Foundation Inc  
Australian Paint Manufacturers Federation  
Australian Council of Trade Unions  
Australian Institute of Petroleum  
Department for Industrial Affairs, S.A.  
Department of Minerals and Energy, W.A.  
Environment Protection Authority of N.S.W.  
Institution of Engineers, Australia  
National Occupational Health and Safety Commission  
New Zealand Chemical Industry Council  
New Zealand Fire Service  
Plastics and Chemicals Industry Association  
Tranz Rail, New Zealand  
Victorian WorkCover Authority  
Work Health Authority, N.T.  
WorkCover New South Wales  
Workplace Standards Authority, Tasmania

Additional interests participating in preparation of Standard:

Agsafe Australia  
Australian Environmental Pest Managers Association  
Manufacturers, distributors and users of agricultural and veterinary chemicals

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**Review of Australian Standards.** To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian Standards are subject to periodic review and are kept up to date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that Standards users ensure that they are in possession of the latest edition, and any amendments thereto.

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Suggestions for improvements to Australian Standards, addressed to the head office of Standards Australia, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in an Australian Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 96227.*

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Originated as AS 2507—1981.  
Previous edition AS 2507—1984.  
Third edition 1998.

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CH/9, Safe Handling of Chemicals to supersede AS 2507—1984, *The storage and handling of pesticides*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide requirements and recommendations for the storage and handling of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, which may be classified as dangerous goods under the *Australian Dangerous Goods Code* (ADG Code) or as scheduled poisons by the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons* (SUSDP).

The Standard is intended to be used by retailers and 'end users' of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, including farms and rural industries.

This Standard has been revised in order to ensure the currency of its technical information, and the opportunity has been taken to arrange the document into a format consistent with other Australian Standards for the storage and handling of dangerous goods. Major changes include the following:

- (a) The title has been changed to better describe the contents of the Standard.
- (b) Sections addressing operational and personal safety and emergency management have been expanded to align with the requirements given in other Australian Standards for the storage and handling of dangerous goods.
- (c) A Section on minor storage has been developed.
- (d) The information on waste disposal has been comprehensively revised to align with industry best practices and to address environmental concerns.

The series of Standards covering the storage and handling of dangerous goods presently comprises the following:

### AS

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1894 | The storage and handling of non-flammable cryogenic and refrigerated liquids                      |
| 1940 | The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids                                     |
| 2022 | Anhydrous ammonia—Storage and handling (known as the SAA Anhydrous Ammonia Code)                  |
| 2714 | The storage and handling of hazardous chemical materials—Class 5.2 substances (organic peroxides) |
| 2927 | The storage and handling of liquefied chlorine gas  |
| 3780 | The storage and handling of corrosive substances  |
| 3961 | Liquefied natural gas—Storage and handling  |
| 4081 | The storage, handling and transport of liquid and liquefied polyfunctional isocyanates            |
| 4226 | The storage and handling of oxidizing agents  |
| 4332 | The storage and handling of gases in cylinders  |

### AS/NZS

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|------|---|
| 1596 | Storage and handling of LP Gas  |
| 3833 | The storage and handling of mixed classes of dangerous goods in packages and intermediate bulk containers |
| 4452 | The storage and handling of toxic substances  |

Attention has been paid to the requirements of regulatory authorities; emergency services and environmental authorities, and various publications of Worksafe Australia.

This Standard is a result of a consensus amongst Australian and New Zealand representatives on the Joint Committee that is to be produced as an Australian Standard.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of appendices. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix provides information and guidance only.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

Notes that appear in the main text of this Standard provide information only.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

## The storage and handling of agricultural and veterinary chemicals

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE** This Standard sets out requirements and recommendations for the safe storage and handling, by retailers and 'end user' industries (including farms and rural industries), of packaged agricultural and veterinary chemicals, comprising dangerous goods of Classes 3, 6.1, 8 and 9, 'minor storage' quantities of aerosols (UNI950) and of Class 4.3, and non-dangerous goods including scheduled poisons.

## NOTES:

- 1 Examples of 'end user' industries are—
  - (i) pest control;
  - (ii) horticulture;
  - (iii) floriculture;
  - (iv) farms and other rural industries;
  - (v) recreation, including parks and gardens maintenance;
  - (vi) national parks.
- 2 Agricultural and veterinary chemicals may be classified as workplace hazardous substances by NOHSC:1008 and listed in NOHSC:10005. As such they will also be subject to the legislative requirements relating to workplace hazardous substances. Recognition of the relevant requirements of the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons* (SUSDP) is also necessary.
- 3 Classification and identification systems for dangerous goods and scheduled poisons are outlined in Appendix A.
- 4 A discussion of the health hazards presented by agricultural and veterinary chemicals and an outline of suitable first aid procedures are provided in Appendix B.

This Standard deals with the storage of packages, including intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) of capacity not exceeding 1.6 m<sup>3</sup>.

This Standard does not apply to—

- (a) the manufacture of agricultural and veterinary chemicals;
- (b) the bulk storage of agricultural and veterinary chemicals;
- (c) the storage and handling of Class 5.1 dangerous goods (including chlorate defoliants and ammonium nitrate fertilizers), which are addressed in AS 4326;
- (d) package filling lines;
- (e) the transport of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, which, if they are dangerous goods, is dealt with in the *Australian Dangerous Goods Code* (ADG Code); and
- (f) the use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

**1.2 APPLICATION** The requirements of this Standard apply in conjunction with, but do not take precedence over, any government regulations that apply in any area.

## NOTES:

- 1 A store may come under the regulatory control of several authorities having differing areas of responsibility, and an approval from one authority does not necessarily constitute an approval from others.