

Australian Standard™

**Cranes, hoists and winches — Safe use**

**Part 4: Tower cranes**



**STANDARDS  
AUSTRALIA**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME-005, Cranes. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 14 November 2003 and published on 24 March 2004.

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Australian Elevator Association  
Australian Industry Group  
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**Cranes, hoists and winches—Safe use**

**Part 4: Tower cranes**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-005, Cranes, to supersede AS 2550.4—1994, *Cranes—Safe use, Part 4: Tower cranes*. After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide tower crane users, suppliers and regulators with uniform requirements and guidance for the safe use of tower cranes.

It should be noted that Standards Australia uses the term ‘shall’ to indicate those requirements that have to be met for compliance with the objectives and intent of the Standard in question. However, nothing in this Australian Standard is required by law in any Australian jurisdiction, unless the Australian Standard has been specifically incorporated by an Act or regulation in the jurisdiction.

The Commonwealth, State and Territory governments may choose to incorporate this Australian Standard into their occupational health and safety law. The exact manner of incorporation will determine whether the whole document is incorporated or whether specific sections or provisions of the Australian Standard are incorporated. The manner of incorporation will determine which of the Standard’s requirements (‘shall’ statements) have been made a legal requirement in a jurisdiction. As a general principle, where an Australian Standard is incorporated by a regulation, the legal status of the Standard’s requirements and recommendations is made clear by the incorporation provisions of the regulation. Thus, the requirements (‘shall’ statements) in an Australian Standard are not mandatory for legal purposes unless incorporated specifically by an Act or regulation. Readers will need to refer to their jurisdiction’s law to determine which parts of the Australian Standard (if any) have been incorporated and the manner of incorporation.

Jurisdictions may also choose to incorporate this Australian Standard (either in whole or in part) in an Approved Code of Practice made under OH&S law. The purpose of the Approved Codes of Practice is to provide practical guidance to persons on how to comply with their obligations under the enabling OH&S Act or regulations made under the Act. Incorporation of this Standard in an Approved Code of Practice has the effect of making the Standard a part of the Code; that is, part of the guidance on how to comply with the provisions of the Act or regulation to which the Code is giving practical guidance. The provisions in a Code, however, are not mandatory. That is, a person may choose to comply with the relevant provisions of the Act or regulation in some other way, provided that the alternative method used fulfils the requirements of the Act or regulations.

Readers will need to refer to their jurisdiction’s Approved Codes of Practice to determine which parts of this Australian Standard (if any) have been incorporated into Codes of Practice and the manner of incorporation.

Published Standards in the AS 2550 series are the following:

AS 2550	Cranes, hoists and winches—Safe use
2550.1	Part 1: General requirements
2550.3	Part 3: Bridge, gantry, portal (including container cranes) and jib cranes
2550.4	Part 4: Tower cranes
2550.5	Part 5: Mobile cranes
2550.6	Part 6: Guided storing and retrieving appliances
2550.7	Part 7: Builders’ hoists and associated equipment
2550.9	Part 9: Vehicle hoists
2550.10	Part 10: Elevating work platforms

AS

2550.13 Part 13: Building maintenance units

2550.15 Part 15: Concrete placing equipment

2550.16 Part 16: Mast climbing work platforms

It is intended to publish the following part:

Special purpose appliances.

The term 'normative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. Normative appendices form an integral part of the requirements of this Standard.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard**  
**Cranes, hoists and winches—Safe use**

**Part 4: Tower cranes**

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies requirements for the safe use of tower cranes.

## NOTES:

- 1 Typical examples of tower cranes are given in AS 1418.4.
- 2 Power-driven mobile cranes fitted with tower attachments are not within the Scope of this Standard (see AS 2550.5).
- 3 Offshore cranes are not within the Scope of this Standard.

**1.2 APPLICATION**

This Standard shall be applied for the safe use of tower cranes.

In addition, this Standard may be useful for the safe use of derrick and jib cranes.

This Standard is complementary to AS 2550.1, but the requirements given herein shall take precedence over the corresponding requirements given in that document.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referenced in this Standard:

## AS

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 1318        | Use of colour for the marking of physical hazards and the identification of certain equipment in industry |
| 1418        | Cranes, hoists and winches  |
| 1418.4      | Part 4: Tower cranes  |
| 2549        | Cranes (including hoists and winches)—Glossary of terms   |
| 2550        | Cranes—Safe use   |
| 2550.1      | Part 1: General requirements  |
| 2550.5      | Part 5: Mobile cranes   |
| AS/NZS 1891 | Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices  |
| 1891.1      | Part 1: Safety belts and harnesses  |
| 1891.4      | Part 4: Selection, use and maintenance  |
| 3000        | Electrical installations (known as the Australian/New Zealand Wiring Rules)                               |
| ISO         |   |
| 12482-1     | Cranes—Condition monitoring<br>Part 1: General  |