

AS 2581/Amdt 1/1984-01-06

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
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AMENDMENT No 1

to

AS 2581—1983

**PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE PLASTIC LABELS FOR PERMANENT USE  
(GENERAL PURPOSE)**

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**ADDITIONAL TEXT**

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*SUMMARY:* The following sections of the standard are covered by this amendment: CONTENTS: Annex 6 to Appendix A (new).

Published on 6 January 1984.

**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD**

**PRESSURE SENSITIVE  
ADHESIVE PLASTICS LABELS  
FOR PERMANENT USE  
(GENERAL PURPOSE)**

**AS 2381—1983**

First edition.....1983

**PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
STANDARDS HOUSE, 80 ARTHUR ST, NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W.**



ISBN 0 7262 2771 4

## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Pressure Sensitive Labels, following an urgent request from the Department of Defence which has a heavy demand for labels for a wide variety of purposes, including labels for use on boxes, machinery, dangerous goods and explosives cases.

The standard was derived from BS 4781, Self-adhesive Labels for Permanent Use, Part 1: General Purpose Labels, and Part 2: Requirements for Stringent Conditions.

It is one of a series of standards to be prepared for both the label stock with backing of paper, plastics, laminated foil, metal or textile and a wide variety of labels converted from this stock.

When the standards for label stock are published, it will be required that labels be converted from the relevant stock. The requirements specified for the stock will therefore render redundant many of the requirements specified in the meantime in the preceding standards for the labels proper, and new editions of the label standards will then be issued.

Purchasing guidelines are provided in Appendix A which also contains annexes giving suggestions for additional stringent requirements where they may apply.

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6 to Appendix A SEE AMENDMENTS No 1

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Under 'ANNEXES' and:

6 to Appendix A Suggested Requirements for Resistance to Stringent Conditions of Marine Exposure .....

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## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

for

PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE PLASTICS LABELS FOR PERMANENT USE  
(GENERAL PURPOSE)

## SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

**1.1 SCOPE.** This standard specifies requirements for pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) plastics labels for permanent adhesion to compatible surfaces under temperate conditions.

## NOTES:

1. Purchasing guidelines are given in Appendix A and annexes to Appendix A provide suggestions for specifying additional, selected, stringent requirements where requirements for certain stringent conditions call for the provision of further, special product standards for PSA plastics labels.
2. Application of the standard may be extended to cover special stringent conditions by the specification of additional requirements selected from the annexes to Appendix A.

**1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.** The following standards are referred to in this standard:

AS 1580	Methods of Test for Paints and Related Materials Method 452.1 Resistance to Humidity under Condensation Conditions Method 483.1 Resistance to Artificial Weathering (carbon-arc type instruments)
AS 1599	Pressure Sensitive Adhesive Packaging Tapes
AS 1701	White Spirit
AS 1734	Wrought Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy Flat Sheet, Coiled Sheet and Plate for General Engineering Purposes
AS 2001	Methods of Test for Textiles Part 4—Colourfastness Tests Method 1—Definitions and General Requirements
AS 2193	Methods for Calibration and Grading of Force Measuring Systems of Testing Machines
BS 872	abrasive Papers and Cloths (Technical Products)
BS 3273	Calcium-base Greases
BS 3951	Electrical Controls for Domestic Appliances Part 1—General Requirements
BS 3591	Industrial Methylated Spirits
BS 4475	Straight Mineral Lubricating Oils

**1.3 DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

**1.3.1 Pressure sensitive adhesive plastics label (self-adhesive label)** (hereinafter referred to as a 'label')—a label, plate, panel or decorative trim bearing a legend or symbol (for any purpose, e.g. identification, instruction, warning, decoration) and made of plastics sheet or film to which a pressure sensitive adhesive has been applied as an integral part of the construction.

**1.3.2 Permanent adhesion**—adhesion of such nature that the label, after fixing to the product, cannot be readily removed or moved.

**1.3.3 Pressure sensitive adhesive**—an adhesive which, in dry form, will firmly adhere to a variety of surfaces on contact and application of pressure alone.

**1.3.4 Protective release backing**—a specially treated material affixed to the adhesive surface of the label to protect that surface until the time of application.

**1.3.5 Product**—the article, appliance, equipment, machine or part to which the label is to be applied.

**1.4 MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION.** The label shall consist of plastics sheet or film with a backing coat of adhesive and a protective release backing, which shall be readily and completely removable (see Clause 2.1).

**1.5 DIMENSIONS AND TOLERANCES.** The dimensions and tolerances of labels shall be as specified by the purchaser (see Appendix A, Paragraph A3(b)).

**1.6 PACKAGING AND MARKING.**

**1.6.1 Packaging.** Labels shall be packed so that they are adequately protected from damage in transportation and from deterioration due to climatic conditions.

**1.6.2 Marking.** The following information shall be clearly marked on each package:

- (a) Manufacturer's or supplier's name.
- (b) Manufacturer's identification (face stock, adhesive, backing).
- (c) The quantity of the contents.
- (d) Batch number and date of manufacture.

In addition, a sample of the label shall be prominently affixed to the outside of each package.

**NOTE:** Manufacturers who place the number of this Australian standard on labels, packaging or literature related thereto should ensure that the labels are manufactured to comply with the standard. Attention is particularly drawn to the scheme for independent assurance provided by the AS Mark which is a registered certification trademark owned by the Standards Association of Australia and which is available for use with suitable Australian standards.

The presence of the AS Mark on or in relation to a product is an assurance that the goods have been produced under a system of supervision, control and testing applied during manufacture and including periodical inspections at the manufacturer's works in accordance with the certification mark scheme of the SAA.

The AS Mark can be used only by manufacturers licensed under the certification mark scheme operated by the SAA, and only when accompanied by the number of the relevant Australian standard. It will usually be a requirement that the words 'Manufactured to Australian Standard' accompany the number of the standard and enclose the Mark as shown below; however, this is a matter for negotiation with the Association.

Further particulars of the terms of licence and suitability of this standard for certification purposes may be obtained from the Quality