

AS 3887—1991

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Paints for steel structures—Coal tar epoxy (two-pack)**

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Austroads  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Paints and Related Materials, under the direction of the Chemical Standards Board, to supersede AS K172—1970, *Tar epoxy paint, solvent based*.

The Standard forms part of a series of Australian paint Standards required for the protection of iron and steel against corrosion.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

## Paints for steel structures—Coal tar epoxy (two-pack)

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE** This Standard specifies requirements for two-component coal tar epoxy paint intended for the protection of iron and steel against corrosion when used on either moist underground or water immersed structures. It is primarily intended for paints applied by spraying (conventional air or airless), which is particularly suitable for high-build coatings. The paint may also be applied by roller, or by brush for small areas.

Paint specified in this Standard complies with the provisions of Paint Type 12 given in AS 2310.

## NOTES:

- 1 When used with the appropriate primer, the paint may be used in systems LP 3-A and LP 3-B given in AS 2310. It may be used as a single coat in system SP-3A.
- 2 The paint is not usually produced in colours other than black or brown. The use of different colours in a two-coat system helps to distinguish between coats and aids application.
- 3 Appendix A provides recommendations on information which should be provided by the purchaser at the time of enquiry or order.
- 4 Additional information on the use and method of application of coal tar epoxy paint is given in Appendix B.
- 5 Alternative means for determining compliance with this Standard are given in Appendix C.

**1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS** A list of the documents referred to in this Standard is contained in Appendix D.

**1.3 DEFINITIONS** For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS 2310 and those below apply.

**1.3.1 Coal tar**—the refined liquid or solid product of coke oven operations. It is also known as coal tar pitch.

**1.3.2 Coal tar epoxy paint**—a paint consisting essentially of a coal tar, an epoxy resin base, polyamide or amine adduct or other hardeners (excluding free, volatile amines) with appropriate pigments and solvents mixed together in the proportions recommended by the manufacturer. Anti-settling and anti-sag agents may be added, as necessary.

**1.3.3 Component**—each of two parts of the paint, i.e. the epoxy base and hardener, which, when mixed together as recommended by the manufacturer, form the coal tar epoxy paint.

**1.4 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS** As these paints contain coal tar, organic amines in chemical combination and epoxy resin, protective clothing including gloves should be worn to eliminate skin contact during mixing, application and other handling operations.

Some components of coal tar are known carcinogens and appropriate precautions should be taken when using these paints.

NOTE: Appendix B provides further information on safety precautions.