AS 3983—1991
Reconfirmed 2016

Australian Standard®

Metal drums for insulated electric cables and bare conductors

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee EL/3, Electric Wires and Cables. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 28 August 1991 and published on 15 November 1991.

The following interests are represented on Committee EL/3:

Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association
Department of Defence
Department of Minerals and Energy, N.S.W.
Electrical Contractors Associations of Australia
Electrical regulatory authorities
Electrical Supply Association of Australia
Railways of Australia Committee
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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 90191.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

RECONFIRMATION

OF
AS 3983—1991
Metal drums for insulated electric cables and bare conductors

RECONFIRMATION NOTICE

Technical Committee EL-003 has reviewed the content of this publication and in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation, it has been determined that the publication is still valid and does not require change.

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Approved for reconfirmation in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation on 10 October 2016.

The following are represented on Technical Committee EL-003:

Australian Cable Makers' Association
Australian Industry Group
Electrical Compliance Testing Association
Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council
National Electrical and Communications Association
Queensland University of Technology

NOTES

Australian Standard®

Metal drums for insulated electric cables and bare conductors

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Electric Wires and Cables in cooperation with the Standards Australia Committee on Overhead Power Line Materials. It supersedes AS C365, *Drums for bare stranded conductors*, Part 2—1970, *Metal drums*.

This new Standard covers not only drums for bare conductors but also drums for insulated electric cables and any other product for which the drums are suitable, e.g. optical fibre cable, stay wires. This Standard is a revision of AS C365—1970 to reflect a new approach to the standardization of metal drums.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Metal drums for insulated electric cables and bare conductors

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE This Standard specifies requirements for metal drums for the transport and storage of insulated electric cables, bare conductors or other products for which the drums are suitable.

Drums manufactured to this Standard shall be suitable for repeated use. The Standard does not cover collapsible drums or drums designed for stacking, except that drums with I-section flanges and not exceeding the standard drum capacity mass stated in Table 1 shall be capable of being stacked two high during storage.

The Standard includes nomenclature and dimensions of a preferred range of drums, together with details of materials, construction and marking requirements, and special requirements for the protection of cables.

NOTES:

1 For the purpose of this Standard, the term 'cable' applies to any product which may be wound on the specified drums.

2 Dependent upon cable type, transportation, single use and installation conditions, drums of lighter or more robust construction or differing design may be required. Such drums are not included in the scope of this Standard.

3 Timber drums for cables are covered by AS 2857.

1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS
1554 SAA Structural Steel Welding Code
1544.1 Part 1: Welding of steel structures
1594 Hot-rolled steel flat products
1595 Cold-rolled unalloyed low carbon steel sheet and strip
1650 Hot-dipped galvanized coatings on ferrous articles
2857 Timber drums for insulated electric cables and bare conductors
3678 Hot-rolled structural steel plates, floor plates and slabs
3679 Hot-rolled structural steel bars and sections

1.3 DESIGNATION Drums shall be designated by a reference number which shall be made up as follows, with a solidus (/) between Items (b) and (c) and between Items (c) and (d):

(a) Prefix letter M.

(b) Flange diameter, in millimetres.

(c) Barrel diameter, in millimetres.

(d) Internal width, in millimetres.

Example

M 1200/600/800

1.4 DEFINITIONS For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

1.4.1 Cable — any product which may be wound on the drums specified in this Standard.

1.4.2 Cable inner-end access — ramped opening through the drum barrel, adjacent to one flange, to facilitate the securing of that end of the cable first laid on the barrel.

1.4.3 Protective external lagging — component which is additional to the basic drum construction, for the purpose of providing protection against mechanical damage to the outer layers of the cable on the drum.

1.5 TERMINOLOGY The terminology and typical construction of drums is illustrated in Figure 1.