

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Occupational protective gloves**

**Part 6: Protective gloves for structural  
firefighting—Laboratory test methods  
and performance requirements**



## **AS/NZS 2161.6:2014**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF-049, Firefighters PPE. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 30 January 2014 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 21 February 2014.

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-049, Firefighters—Personal Protective Equipment, to supersede (in part) AS 2161.6—2003, *Occupational protective gloves, Part 6: Protective gloves for firefighters—Laboratory test methods and performance requirements*. It is the Committee's intention to revise requirements for Type 1 gloves in a future ensemble standard for wildland firefighting ensembles (based on ISO 16073).

This Standard is based on but not equivalent to ISO 15383:2001, *Protective gloves for firefighters—Laboratory test methods and performance requirements*, published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The variations to ISO 15383 in this Standard are in line with changes proposed at ISO technical committee deliberations but not yet finalized as part of the ISO 11999 series, to be titled, *PPE for firefighters—Test methods and requirements for PPE used by firefighters who are at risk of exposure to high levels of heat and/or flame while fighting fires occurring in structures*.

The objective of this revision is to remove specifications for Type 1 gloves, a change reflected in the new part title of the Standard and to introduce a single level of performance for structural firefighting gloves in place of the previous two level approach (Types 2 and 3). Type 1 gloves will continue to be able to comply with AS 2161.6—2003 until it is withdrawn.

Dexterity testing is a subject that will be considered in a future revision.

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

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

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**Occupational protective gloves**

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and performance requirements**

**1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies test methods and minimum requirements for protective gloves to be worn during structural firefighting and associated activities where there is a risk of heat and/or flame.

This Standard provides minimum performance requirements for protective gloves designed to protect against injury in firefighting operations.

This Standard covers the general glove design, the minimum performance levels of the materials used and the methods of test for determining these performance levels.

This Standard does not cover special gloves for use in other high risk situations such as specialized firefighting. It does not cover protection for the head, torso, arms, legs and feet or protection of the hands against other hazards, e.g. chemical, biological, radiation and electrical hazards, except for limited, accidental exposure to fireground chemicals and contaminated blood or body fluids. These aspects may be dealt with in other standards.

Selection of the appropriate system of clothing, including gloves, is dependent on carrying out an effective risk assessment that identifies the hazards to be faced, evaluates the likelihood of those hazards and provides the means of reducing or eliminating these hazards.

NOTE: Guidelines for conducting a risk assessment and some factors for consideration are included in Appendix D.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

**AS**

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|-------------|--|
| 2001        | Methods of test for textiles   |
| 2001.2.25.4 | Part 2.25.4: Physical tests—Determination of the abrasion resistance of fabrics by the Martindale method—Assessment of appearance change |
| 2001.5.4    | Part 5.4: Dimensional change—Domestic washing and drying procedures for textile testing (ISO 6330:2000, MOD)                             |

**AS/NZS**

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|--------|--|
| 2161   | Occupational protective gloves   |
| 2161.1 | Part 1: Selection use and maintenance  |
| 2161.3 | Part 3: Protective gloves against mechanical risks   |
| 4502   | Methods for evaluating clothing for protection against heat and fire                               |
| 4502.2 | Part 2: Evaluation of heat transmission of materials and material assemblies when exposed to flame |

**AS/NZS ISO**

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|------|--|
| 6530 | Protective clothing—Protection against liquid chemicals—Test method for resistance materials to penetration by liquids |
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