

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Solaria for cosmetic purposes**



## **AS/NZS 2635:2008**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CS-064, Solaria. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 10 December 2008 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 19 December 2008.

This Standard was published on 31 December 2008.

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The following are represented on Committee CS-064:

Australasian College of Dermatologists  
Australasian Solarium Association  
Australian Industry Group  
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency  
Cancer Society of New Zealand  
Consumers' Federation of Australia  
Department of Human Services (Victoria)  
New Zealand Dermatological Society  
Radiation Advisory Council  
Skin and Cancer Foundation Australia  
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Original as AS 2635—1983.  
Previous edition AS/NZS 2635:2002.  
Third edition 2008.

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Jointly published by Standards Australia, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001 and Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6020

ISBN 0 7337 8992 7

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-064, Solaria, to supersede AS/NZS 2635:2002, *Solaria for cosmetic purposes*.

Since the publication of the 2002 edition, new evidence<sup>\*†</sup> has emerged showing an increased risk between solarium use and skin cancer, in particular melanoma. In addition, several states and territories in Australia are in the process of drafting legislation to govern the operation of solariums for cosmetic purposes and are looking to this Standard for guidance. Furthermore, given the evidence of failure to follow best practice, there is a necessity to implement effective regulation on the industry in New Zealand. Hence, there is a need to ensure the Standard reflects the best available evidence.

The requirements set out in this Standard are divided as follows:

- (a) Section 2 sets out requirements for installing and maintaining tanning units.
- (b) Section 3 sets out requirements covering the operation of tanning units. Section 3 also includes requirements for the content of warning notices and client consent forms, the format of which is set out in Appendix A.

Endorsement of intentional exposure of ultraviolet radiation is not the object of this Standard. However, the Standard acknowledges the continuing popularity of the use of tanning units and sets out requirements which, if complied with, establish a safer situation than where cosmetic tanning practices are uncontrolled.

The committee agreed that the maximum effective irradiance (measured as UV Index) should be lowered from UV Index 60 in the 2002 edition to UV Index 36. There was a strong intent to consider a further decrease in maximum effective irradiance at the next revision. European legislation specifies a UV Index of 12.

The term 'normative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

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\* International Agency for Research on Cancer Working Group on artificial ultraviolet (UV) light and skin cancer. The association of use of sunbeds with cutaneous malignant melanoma and other skin cancers. A systematic review. *Int J Cancer*. 2007 Mar 1;120(5):1116-22.

† Gallagher RP, Spinelli JJ, Lee TK. Tanning beds, sunlamps, and risk of cutaneous malignant melanoma. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev*. 2005 Mar;14(3):562-6

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## FOREWORD

Whilst the ultraviolet band is divided into three discrete spectral regions, identified as UV-A, UV-B and UV-C, there is some variation in how different organizations define the boundaries of each of the three spectral regions. The Standard uses the definition adopted by the World Health Organization (WHO) but also makes reference to specific wavelength ranges, where necessary. The use of specific wavelength ranges permits the ultraviolet irradiance limitations set by the Standard to more accurately account for the erythral response weighted emission characteristics of the ultraviolet lamps, which were assessed in connection with the preparation of this Standard.

During the preparation of this Standard, it was concluded that the magnitude of any infrared emission from a predominantly ultraviolet emitting lamp would be too small to cause any significant harm to a user of a tanning unit that complies with the ultraviolet irradiance limitations set by this Standard.

The preparation of this Standard necessitated the collection and appraisal of data on ultraviolet lamps representing most of the different types and brands currently available in Australia and New Zealand. In order for the lamp appraisals to have any practical value for the purpose of preparing the Standard, it was necessary to make use of published erythral response data. These data were used to establish various weightings against which lamp emission characteristics could be properly evaluated with respect to the effect upon human skin of different discrete spectral regions of the ultraviolet band.

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## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out requirements for installing, maintaining and operating solaria for cosmetic purposes.

The requirements set out in this Standard provide a basis for setting up and operating artificial tanning equipment, particularly in commercial establishments with solarium facilities. Product requirements for artificial tanning equipment are not included in this Standard, and are specified in the AS/NZS 3350 series and IEC 61228. Electrical safety requirements for artificial tanning equipment are specified in AS/NZS 3350.2.27.

Because there is an increased risk to the user in an uncontrolled environment, unsupervised self-service solariums should not be available, and therefore are not covered within the scope of this Standard.

**1.2 OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Standard is to provide operators and users of artificial tanning equipment with procedures for reducing the risk associated with indoor tanning.

**1.3 APPLICATION**

This Standard applies generally to situations where artificial tanning equipment is used to acquire skin tanning for cosmetic purposes. In particular, the Standard applies to commercial solarium establishments or tanning units in establishments where artificial tanning treatment is offered, e.g. clubs, sporting establishments and various cosmetic institutions.

This Standard is not applicable to the therapeutic administration of ultraviolet treatment by registered members of the medical profession.

Section 2 sets out requirements for installing and maintaining tanning units, and Section 3 sets out operational requirements. Although the requirements set out in Section 2 apply mainly to the final performance of a solarium, they may also influence the selection of artificial tanning equipment and individual components included in and associated with the solarium.

**1.4 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS/NZS

3350 Safety of household and similar electrical appliances

3350.2.27 Part 2.27: Particular requirements—Appliances for skin exposure to ultraviolet and infrared radiation