

AS/NZS 1716:1994

Australian/New Zealand Standard

Respiratory protective devices

AS/NZS 1716:1994

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF/10, Industrial Respiratory Protection. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 17 March 1994 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 27 April 1994. It was published on 16 May 1994.

The following interests are represented on Committee SF/10:

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Australia Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australia Chamber of Manufactures
Australian Gas Association
Australian Institute of Petroleum
Australian Mines and Metal Association
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For history before 1994 see Preface.

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Australian/New Zealand Standards Committee SF/10 on Industrial Respiratory Protection to supersede AS 1716—1991.

This Standard was revised in 1994 with the objective of incorporating improvements based on user experience gained since it was last published in 1991.

In this edition, deletions from the Standard include the qualitative facial fit tests (using isoamyl acetate and ortho-chlorobenzylidene malononitrile). In the last edition, they were optional alternatives to total inward leakage facial fit testing using sodium chloride aerosol which now is the only method to be used in type testing. This change now brings the Standard into line with overseas (CEN) test procedures. It is acknowledged that such testing may not reflect respiratory performance against real workplace aerosols which is expected in many cases to be much better as workplace aerosols are generally coarser. The change removes the possibly subjective nature of the interpretation of the qualitative test results.

Other changes were mostly to make testing procedures clearer or to bring requirements closer to published CEN documents. The abrasive blasting helmet testing has had the abrasive material altered from cast steel to iron grit.

The type of couplings permitted to be used in airline respirators has been altered to be of a *safety type*, i.e. requiring at least two deliberate actions to separate the connectors.

The requirements for compressed air quality have been deleted from this Standard and AS/NZS 1715:1994 has been referred to instead.

The marking section has been altered to allow for additional marking to be added to the instructions.

The history of the Standards which have been revised and amalgamated to form this Standard is as follows:

In Australia, AS Z18 was first published in 1963 with a second edition being published in 1968. This Standard was revised and redesignated AS 1716—1975, with a second edition in 1982, a third edition in 1984 and a fourth edition in 1991.

In New Zealand the Standard was first published in 1961 as a part of NZS 1586, being an endorsement of BS 2091:1954 with amendments. NZS 2209 was first published in 1968. NZS 1586 was superseded in part by NZS 2266 in 1969.

These two Standards were replaced by NZS/AS 1716-1991 (harmonized in 1992).

Advice on the selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment is not covered by this Standard but given in AS/NZS 1715.

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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