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AS/NZS 2243.1:1997

Australian/New Zealand Standard®

Safety in laboratories

Part 1: General

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This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CH/26, Safety in Laboratories. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 November 1996 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 29 November 1996. It was published on 5 January 1997.

The following interests are represented on Committee CH/26:

Agriculture Victoria
Australian Government Analytical Laboratories
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
Department of Defence, Australia
Department of Labour, New Zealand
ESR Health, New Zealand
Ministry of Commerce, New Zealand
National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia
New Zealand Chemical Industry Council
New Zealand Microbiological Society
Plastics and Chemicals Industry Association
Victorian WorkCover Authority
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Additional interests participating in preparation of Standard:

Consultant physicists
Monash University
University of Melbourne
University of Queensland

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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 96111.

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PUBLISHED JOINTLY BY:

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA
1 The Crescent,
Homebush NSW 2140 Australia

STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND
Level 10, Radio New Zealand House,
155 The Terrace,
Wellington 6001 New Zealand

ISBN 0 7337 0891 9

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee, CH/26, on Safety in Laboratories, to supersede AS 2243.1—1990.

The objective of this Standard is to provide general information, recommendations and procedures which will promote safe working in laboratories.

This edition has been rewritten to take account of the publication of AS 2982—1996, *Laboratory construction* and also includes clauses on assessment of risk as applied to laboratory safety.

The Standard comprises Part 1 of a 10-part series designed to provide basic coverage of all important aspects of the safety function in laboratories. It deals with the general aspects of safety common to all kinds of laboratories and is intended to be used in conjunction with other Parts of the series, which relate to particular aspects of laboratory operations and to particular kinds of hazards. It stresses the importance of preventive measures and sets out the organization of safety techniques, emergency procedures, and first aid.

The other Parts in the series are as follows:

Part 2: Chemical aspects
Part 3: Microbiology
Part 4: Ionizing radiations
Part 5: Non-ionizing radiations
Part 6: Mechanical aspects
Part 7: Electrical aspects
Part 8: Fume cupboards
Part 9: Recirculating fume cabinets
Part 10: Storage of chemicals

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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