

Australian Standard™

**Pressure equipment—Operation and
maintenance**



S t a n d a r d s Australia

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME-001, Pressure Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 30 December 2000 and published on 6 March 2001.

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Pressure equipment—Operation and maintenance

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-001, Pressure Equipment to supersede AS 3873—1995, *Pressure equipment—Operation and maintenance*.

The Joint Committee agreed to produce this document as an Australian only Standard.

This Standard is a result of a consensus among members of Committee ME-001. Consensus means general agreement by all interested parties. Consensus includes an attempt to remove all objections and implies much more than the concept of a simple majority, but not necessarily unanimity. It is consistent with this meaning that a member may be included in the Committee list and yet not be in full agreement with all clauses of this Standard.

It was recognized that there was a need to specify requirements and give guidance to the parties concerned with the operation and maintenance of pressure equipment. Existing Standards specify requirements for design, manufacture and installation of pressure equipment systems, but do not provide information for their operation or maintenance.

This Standard attempts to provide minimum requirements for a method of ensuring safe and reliable operation of pressure equipment and for safety during maintenance, inspection, alteration, storage and disposal. In some circumstances, additional requirements may be necessary for adequate performance or safety. This Standard may be used as a guide for training.

The main changes in this revision are as follows:

- (a) Alignment with Standardization Guide No. 17.1, *Drafting of Standards that may be referenced under occupational health and safety legislation*.
- (b) A new appendix to give guidance on assessment of competency.
- (c) Revised requirements and guidance on risk assessment to align with AS/NZS 4360, *Risk assessment*.
- (d) Revised Section 4, Safety management system, to become Appendix C.
- (e) Incorporation of former Appendix J, Typical example of a generic risk assessment for automotive fuel pressure vessels, into Appendix D.

The principal object of this Standard is to provide uniform, safe and economic requirements and guidance for operation and maintenance of pressure equipment.

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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