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APPROVAL AND TEST SPECIFICATION—
BEAUTY THERAPY EQUIPMENT

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee EL/18/14, Safety of Beauty Therapy Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 10 March 1988 and published on 17 June 1988.

The following interests are represented on Committee EL/18/14:

Advanced Association of Beauty Therapists

Australasian College of Physical Scientists in Medicine

Australian Federation of Aestheticians and Beauty Therapists

Confederation of Australian Industry

Department of Community Services and Health

Department of Technical and Further Education, N.S.W.

Department of Technical and Further Education, Vic.

Lincoln Institute of Health Sciences

Manufacturers and suppliers of beauty therapy equipment

Regulatory Authorities (Electrical)

The Australasian College of Dermatologists

The Institution of Biomedical Engineering (Australia)

The University of New South Wales

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

APPROVAL AND TEST SPECIFICATION—

BEAUTY THERAPY EQUIPMENT

AS 3130—1988

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Beauty Therapy Equipment.

The Standard has been prepared as a supplementary document to the parent specification AS 3100, *Approval and Test Specification for definitions and general requirements for electrical materials and equipment*. To facilitate application of the supplementary requirements of this Specification, the clauses of this Standard have been listed in approximately the same order as those of AS 3100.

This Standard does not address any performance requirements for the variety of therapy equipment mentioned herein nor is it intended to lend any support for the claimed efficacy of such equipment.

During preparation of the Standard, several contentious design and testing criteria were investigated and debated at length, including the following:

(a) Whether this Standard should have been prepared as a supplementary document to AS 3200, *Approval and Test Specification for electromedical equipment, general requirements*. The Committee did not support this view, believing that beauty therapy equipment, although often deliberately connected to a person, did not fall within the AS 3200 definition of electromedical equipment (which is equipment intended for use by medically trained personnel in the diagnosis or treatment of a patient). However, it should be noted that beauty therapy equipment intended for use in a hospital for treatment of patients may be required, by the hospital, to also comply with AS 3200.

(b) The limits for the electrical outputs of devices intended for deliberate electrical connection to a person.

(c) The degree of access/isolation of electrical outputs which operate at other than mains supply voltage and frequency.

(d) Another matter which drew critical comment was the scarcity and inadequacy of equipment marking and operating instructions for some equipment. The Committee acknowledged the need for improved marking and instructions for operators and was reassured to learn of recent initiatives in several TAFE colleges to provide formal training of commercial beauty therapists.

(e) The hazards associated with glass electrodes which may be inserted into body orifices. The committee was particularly concerned with injuries which may result should the glass shatter. Eventually it was decided that such electrodes should be confined to use on external body surfaces, or be the subject of separate approval by the Statutory Authority.

During preparation of the Standard the Committee was aware that a high percentage of beauty therapy equipment used in Australia was manufactured overseas. Unfortunately, the committee was unable to identify any relevant overseas Standards which cover the safety of beauty therapy equipment and which might have offered guidance. Accordingly, the draft of this Standard was distributed as widely as possible, particularly to overseas manufacturers and testing authorities.

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CONTENTS

		Page
1	SCOPE	4
2	APPLICATION	4
3	REFERENCED DOCUMENTS	4
4	DEFINITIONS	4
5	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION	5
6	PROTECTION AGAINST MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL FAILURE	7
7	PROTECTION AGAINST ELECTRIC SHOCK HAZARDS	8
8	PROTECTION AGAINST HEAT AND FIRE AND OTHER PHYSICAL HAZARDS	9
9	EQUIPMENT MARKING AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION	10
10	TESTS	11

APPENDICES

A	STANDARD TEST FINGER	13
B	LEAKAGE CURRENT TESTS	14
C	MEASURING INSTRUMENT	16
D	MEASUREMENT OF ELECTRICAL OUTPUT DELIVERED TO CLIENT	17
E	EXAMPLES OF METHODS OF OZONE MEASUREMENT	18
F	LIST OF REFERENCED STANDARDS	19

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