

AS/NZS 1715:1994

Australian/New Zealand Standard

**Selection, use and maintenance of
respiratory protective devices**

AS/NZS 1715:1994

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:

Australian Assembly of Fire Authorities
Australian Institute of Petroleum
Composites Institute of Australia
Confederation of Australian Industry
County Fire Authority, Australia
Department of Defence, Australia
Department of Labour, Victoria
Department of Minerals and Energy, N.S.W.
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Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective devices

For history before 1994 see Preface.

Jointly revised and designated as Joint Standard
AS/NZS 1715:1994.

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 7262 8878 0

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Australia/New Zealand Standards Committee SF/10 on Industrial Respiratory Protection to supersede AS 1715—1991.

This Standard is issued as a Joint Standard under the terms of the Active Cooperative Agreement between Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand.

This Standard was revised in 1994 with the objective of taking account of the changes to AS/NZS 1716:1994, *Respiratory protective devices*, and problems of interpretations that have arisen since AS 1715 was last published in 1991.

As most readers will not need to refer to the performance and testing specification AS/NZS 1716:1994, the listings of definitions and referenced Standards have been expanded to include several new definitions and Standards to aid the reader's understanding of the text.

The list of regulatory authorities has been revised.

Throughout the text, examples of types of chemicals or other technical concepts have been expanded. Additional warnings about the possible misuse of respirators have also been included. Qualitative facial fit testing has been retained as being a suitable means of monitoring a respirator program.

It has been the aim of the Committee to further explain that the provision of a respirator is only part of ensuring an overall system of respiratory protection for all employees.

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

In Australia, AS CZ11 was first published in 1960 and revised in 1968. This Standard was revised and redesignated AS 1715 in 1975, with a second edition in 1982 and a third edition in 1991.

In New Zealand the Standard was first published in 1961 in part as NZS 1586, being an endorsement of BS 2091:1954 with amendments. NZS 1586 was superseded in part by NZS 2267 in 1969. NZS 2267 was replaced in part by NZS/AS 1715-1991 (harmonized) in 1992.

Requirements for the performance and testing of respiratory protective devices are not covered in this Standard but are specified in AS/NZS 1716:1994.

Additional relevant Standards which may assist with the selection, care and use of respiratory devices have been specified under the heading of Related Documents (Clause 1.4).

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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