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AS/NZS 2243.1:2005

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Safety in laboratories

Part 1: Planning and operational aspects

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CH-026, Safety in Laboratories. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 20 December 2004 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 21 January 2005.
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The following are represented on Committee CH-026:

Australian Industry Group
Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists
CSIRO
Department of Labour, New Zealand
Department of Primary Industries (Victoria)
Environmental Science and Research, New Zealand
Ministry of Economic Development, New Zealand
National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia
National Measurement Institute, Australia
The New Zealand Chemical Industry Council
New Zealand Microbiological Society
Royal Australian Chemical Institute
Victorian WorkCover Authority
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Additional Interests:

Fume extraction equipment manufacturing interests
Independent consultant health physicist
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Part 1: Planning and operational aspects

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee, CH-026, Safety in Laboratories, to supersede AS/NZS 2243.1:1997, *Safety in laboratories* Part 1: *General*.

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

Major changes in this edition are as follows:

(a) Provision of clearer guidance on risk management processes for a laboratory and alignment with AS/NZS 4801, especially for terminology relating to occupational health and safety management.

(b) Text assigning responsibilities to particular laboratory staff members has been rewritten to a systemic approach to reflect the recommendations of Standardization Guide 17.1, *Drafting of standards that may be referenced under occupational health and safety legislation*, to remove specific assignment of duties.

(c) Provision of increased guidance on local exhaust ventilation options.

(d) Removal of the injury report form that had been copied from AS 1885.1 into an Appendix of AS/NZS 2243.1:1997.

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 safe practices, emergency procedures, and first aid.

The other Parts in the series are as follows:
Part 2: Chemical aspects
Part 3: Microbiological aspects and containment facilities
Part 4: Ionizing radiations
Part 5: Non-ionizing radiations—Electromagnetic, sound and ultrasound
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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