

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

**Timber—Heavy structural products—  
Visually graded**

**Part 11: Utility poles**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee TM-003, Timber Grading. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 28 October 2009. This Standard was published on 16 December 2009.

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The following are represented on Committee TM-003:

- A3P
- Australian Timber Flooring Association
- BRANZ
- CSIRO Manufacturing, and Infrastructure Technology
- Forest and Wood Products Australia
- Forests New South Wales
- Frame and Truss Manufacturers Association Australia
- Master Builders Australia
- New Zealand Timber Industry Federation
- Tasmanian Timber Promotion Board
- Timber and Building Materials Association (NSW)
- Timber Queensland
- University of Technology, Sydney
- Wood Processors Association New Zealand

Additional Interests:

- Dr Geoff Boughton
- 

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 07013.

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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**Timber—Heavy structural products—  
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**Part 11: Utility poles**

Originated as SAA Int. 364—1952.  
Previous edition AS 2209—1994.  
Revised and redesignated as AS 3818.11—2009.

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee TM-003, Timber Grading, to supersede AS 2209—1994, *Timber—Poles for overhead lines*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide producers and users of timber poles, with or without full-length preservative treatment, intended primarily for use in overhead lines for electrical distribution and telecommunications purposes, with requirements for the visual grading.

The objectives of this revision are as follows:

- (a) To complete an overview of the AS 3818 series, with regard to the consistency and alignment between all Parts.
- (b) To change the basis of assessing barrel checks and end splits from a numerical rating system related to pictures to a rating system based on tables of measurements.
- (c) To bring the list of characteristics (not permitted or limited) into the order consistent with other timber grading Standards.
- (d) To revise and re-designate AS 2209—1994 as Part 11 of the AS 3818 series, *Timber—Heavy structural products—Visually graded*, which is composed of the following parts:

AS

3818	Timber—Heavy structural products—Visually graded
3818.1	Part 1: General requirements
3818.2	Part 2: Railway track timbers
3818.3	Part 3: Piles
3818.4	Part 4: Cross-arms for overhead lines
3818.5	Part 5: Mine lift guides
3818.6	Part 6: Decking for wharves and bridges
3818.7	Part 7: Large section sawn hardwood engineering timbers
3818.8	Part 8: Stumps and sole plates
3818.9	Part 9: Natural round treated hardwood corbels, girders and stringers
3818.10	Part 10: Building poles
3818.11	Part 11: Utility poles (this Standard)

Appendices have been included to give advice on—

- (a) information required for purchasing orders;
- (b) differentiating between sapwood and heartwood in softwoods; and
- (c) monitoring treatment quality.

The term ‘informative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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