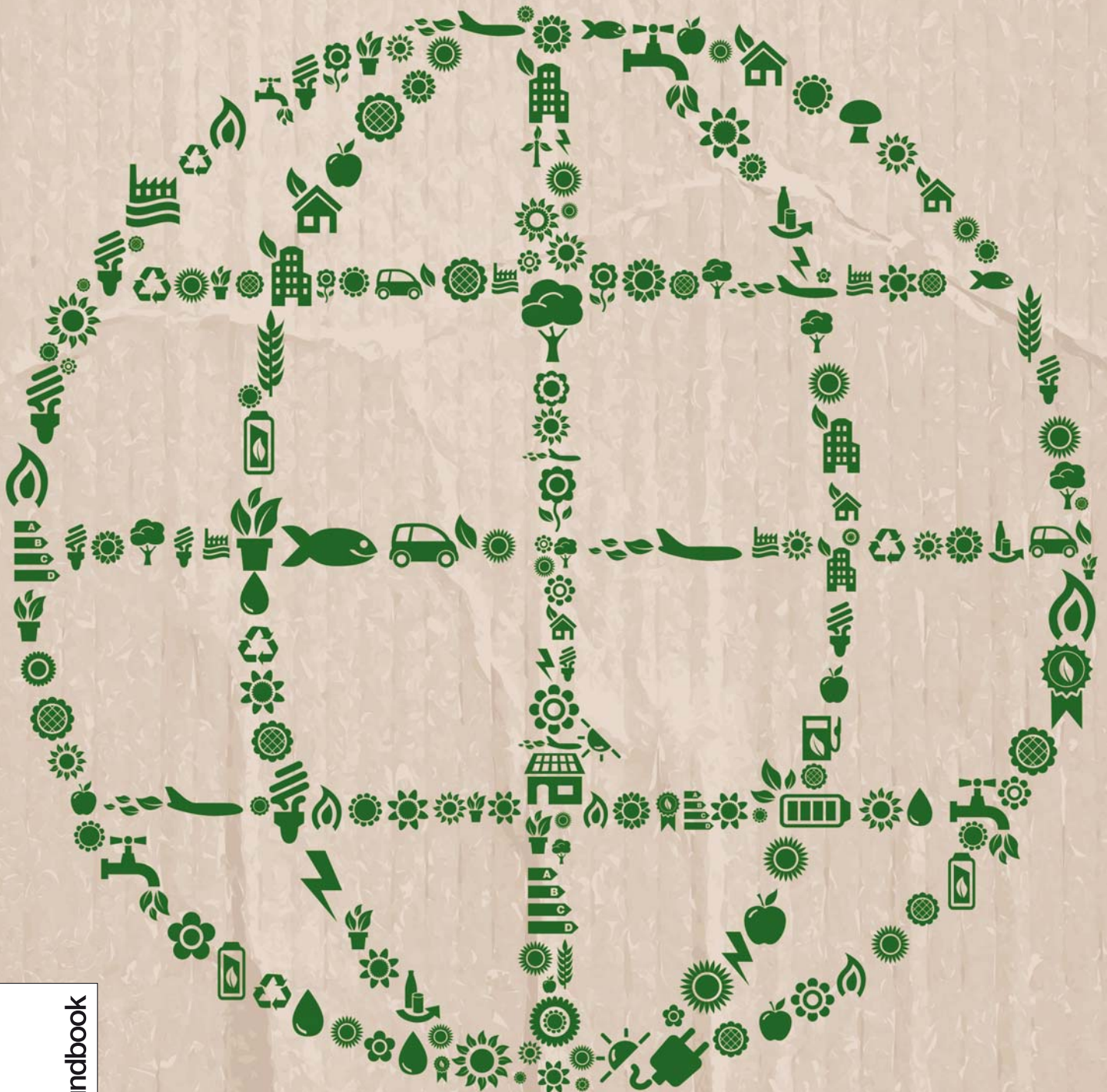




HB 203:2012

Managing environment-related risk



handbook

HB



HB 203:2012

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Handbook was prepared by Joint Technical Committee OB-007, Risk Management. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 8 February 2012 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 13 March 2012.

This Handbook was published on 30 March 2012.

The following are represented on Committee OB-007:

Australian Computer Society
Australian Council of Trade Unions
Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Victoria
Emergency Management Australia
Engineers Australia
Environmental Risk Management Authority New Zealand
Financial Services Institute of Australasia
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand
International Association of Emergency Managers
La Trobe University
Law Society of New South Wales
Massey University
Minerals Council of Australia
Ministry of Economic Development (New Zealand)
New Zealand Society for Risk Management
Risk Management Institution of Australasia
Safety Institute of Australia
Society for Risk Analysis, Australia and New Zealand Regional
The Institute of Internal Auditors, Australia
The University of New South Wales
University of Canterbury New Zealand
Water Services Association of Australia
Westpool

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Web Shop at www.saiglobal.com.au or Standards New Zealand web site at www.standards.co.nz and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

For more frequent listings or notification of revisions, amendments and withdrawals, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand offer a number of update options. For information about these services, users should contact their respective national Standards organization.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Please address your comments to the Chief Executive of either Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand at the address shown on the back cover.

HB 203:2012

Handbook

Managing environment-related risk

Originated as HB 203:2000.
Second edition 2004.
Third edition 2006.
Fourth edition 2012.

COPYRIGHT

© Standards Australia Limited/Standards New Zealand

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Australia) or the Copyright Act 1994 (New Zealand).

Jointly published by SAI Global Limited under licence from Standards Australia Limited, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001 and by Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6140.

ISBN 978 1 74342 059 1

PREFACE

This Handbook was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Task Group, Environmental Risk Management, operating under and with guidance from Committee OB-007, Risk Management, to supersede HB 203:2006.

The principal editors and contributors to this revision were:

Mrs Janet Gough	Environmental Protection Authority (New Zealand)
Prof. Jean Cross	University of New South Wales
Dr Dale Cooper	Broadleaf Capital International

The contribution of the following individuals is gratefully acknowledged

Prof. Mark Burgman	University of Melbourne
Roger Estall	New Zealand Society for Risk Management

The Handbook was initially published in 2000, revised for reissue in 2004, and in 2006.

These three editions referred to AS/NZS 4360, *Risk management*, which subsequently formed the bases of ISO 31000:2009, *Risk management—Principles and guidelines*. The International Standard was then adopted as AS/NZS 31000:2009.

AS/NZS ISO 31000 ('the Standard') describes the principles, framework and process for managing risk effectively. The Standard recommends that managing risk should be integrated within an organization's processes for overall governance, management, reporting etc. This Handbook expands on and explains these elements and provides advice about applying the standard to activities involving environment-related risk.

The vocabulary in this Handbook is aligned with defined terms in the Standard, and other terms in ISO Guide 73, *Risk management vocabulary*. The Handbook uses some specific terms from AS ISO 14050, *Environmental management—Vocabulary*, and these are attributed in the text. These, and other terms, are defined in the Glossary (Appendix B).

The Handbook contains illustrative examples. Care is needed in directly applying these to particular situations or risk management activities where the context of their intended use should be carefully considered and, where appropriate, modifications or adjustments made to these tools.

This Handbook is intended to help individuals and organizations to—

- develop a clear understanding of environment-related risks;
- manage environment-related risk effectively and in a manner that is integrated with other risks across the organization;
- make well informed decisions associated with environment-related risks; and
- provide a consistent terminology when discussing the environment, environment-related risk and risk management.

The audience for this Handbook includes organizations that may have very different environment-related objectives:

- Organizations with defined responsibilities for protecting the environment, typically government regulators and planning organizations. The scope of what is included in the environment for these bodies will be defined by legislation.
- Commercial and other organizations whose activities may have an impact on the environment.

- Organizations whose activities necessarily create environmental impacts.
- Communities of people who wish to protect the environment in which they live.
- Groups that take on roles to protect the environment or part of it.
- Organizations that may be affected by the environment.

This Handbook also aims to communicate with the very large population of regulators, scientists, environmental scientists and environmental engineers who use a different risk paradigm and a different language from the one in the Standard. Many of them operate within the risk-based frameworks of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the European Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical Substances (REACH) Regulation, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Standards, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CODEX) Standards, amongst others. This document uses language that will be understood by these practitioners while still conveying the structure and overall message of the Standard. Appendix D contains a comparison with terminology used in these jurisdictions.

Section 1 introduces fundamental concepts and principles for managing risk effectively. It explains the meaning of 'environment' as used in this Handbook, outlines the distinctive characteristics of environment-related risk that impact on decision-making in organizations and criteria that need to be considered during decision making.

Section 2 discusses the risk management principles outlined in the Standard and how they apply to managing risks related to the environment. It also describes the 'Framework' needed to reflect these principles and provide the intent and capability to consistently apply the risk management process.

Section 3 describes how to apply the risk management process specified in the Standard where the organization has environment-related objectives or where the environment represents a source of risk.

This Handbook contains a glossary of terms as part of a series of Informative Appendices.

This is a free preview. Purchase the entire publication at the link below:

[Product Page](#)

-
- Looking for additional Standards? Visit Intertek Inform Infostore
 - Learn about LexConnect, All Jurisdictions, Standards referenced in Australian legislation
-