

AS 3780—1994

Australian Standard[®]

**The storage and handling of
corrosive substances**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CH/9, Safe Handling of Chemicals. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 26 May and published on 18 July 1994.

The following interests are represented on Committee CH/9:

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Conservation Foundation
Australian Defence Industries
Australian Fire Authorities Council
Australian Government Analytical Laboratories
Australian Institute of Petroleum
Australian Paint Manufacturers Federation
Chemical Confederation of Australia
Country Fire Authority, Vic.
Department of Defence
Department of Minerals and Energy, Western Australia
Department of Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare, W.A.
Department of Primary Industries and Energy
Department of Transport and Communications
Environment Protection Authority (New South Wales)
Insurance Council of Australia
Melbourne Water
National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia
National Health and Medical Research Council
National Occupational Health and Safety Commission
Occupational Health and Safety Authority, Vic.
Printing and Allied Trades Employers Federation of Australia
Queensland Department of Transport
Railways of Australia Committee
Tasmania Development and Resources
University of Queensland
Work Health Authority, N.T.
WorkCover Authority, N.S.W.
Subcommittees of Committee CH/9

Additional interests participating in preparation of Standard:

Commonwealth Institute of Health
Consultants to the chemical industry
Manufacturers and distributors of corrosive substances
Operators of chemical storage terminals

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Suggestions for improvements to Australian Standards, addressed to the head office of Standards Australia, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in an Australian Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Safe Handling of Chemicals to supersede AS 3780.8—1990, *The storage and handling of hazardous chemical materials, Part 8: Class 8 substances—Corrosive substances*. It deals with Class 8 substances, as classified in the ADG Code, and augments the information contained in those storage and handling cards of AS 2508, *Safe storage and handling information cards for hazardous materials*, that deal with Class 8 substances.

Further, attention is drawn to those cards of AS 1678, *Emergency procedure guides—Transport* that relate to Class 8 substances, such cards having the initial subdesignation digit '8'.

This Standard is one of a series of Standards planned, published or being developed, for the storage and handling of dangerous goods. This series presently comprises, in addition to AS 2508 and AS 1678 cited above, the following Standards:

AS

- 1596 LP gas—Storage and handling
- 1894 Code of practice for the safe handling of cryogenic fluids
- 1940 The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids
- 2022 Anhydrous ammonia—Storage and handling (known as the SAA Anhydrous Ammonia Code)
- 2507 The storage and handling of pesticides
- 2714 The storage and handling of hazardous chemical materials—Class 5.2 substances (organic peroxides)
- 2927 The storage and handling of liquefied chlorine gas
- 2931 Selection and use of emergency procedure guides for the transport of dangerous goods
- 3961 Liquefied natural gas—Storage and handling
- 4081 The storage, handling and transport of liquid and liquefied polyfunctional isocyanates

The objective of this Standard is to provide users of corrosive substances with such requirements and recommendations for the storage and handling of those substances as are appropriate to the interests of safety of persons and property. In this edition of the Standard, attention has been paid to the better alignment of requirements with the current needs of regulatory authorities, emergency services and environmental authorities, and greater cognizance has been taken of various publications of Worksafe Australia.

The opportunity to reorganize and simplify the structure and content of the Standard has also been taken. Further, because it has been invalidated by the 5th edition of the *Australian code for the transport of dangerous goods by road and rail*, and because more changes to the allocation of Subsidiary Risks to corrosive substances are anticipated in the future, the informative appendix that listed corrosive substances having Subsidiary Risks has been deleted from this edition; an informative appendix providing guidelines on the preparation of emergency plans has been newly included.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of appendices to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is for information and guidance only.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

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