

AS 2601—1991

Australian Standard®

The demolition of structures

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The following interests are represented on Committee BD/59:

Association of Consulting Engineers Australia
Australian Assembly of Fire Authorities
Australian Federation of Construction Contractors
Australian Institute of Building Surveyors
Australian Uniform Building Regulations Co-ordinating Council
Building Owners and Managers Association of Australia
Building Workers Industrial Union
Demolition Contractors Association of N.S.W
Department of Industrial Affairs (Qld)
Department of Labour (Vic.)
Department of Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare (W.A.)
Federated Engine Drivers & Firemen Association of Australia
Institution of Engineers, Australia
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The Workcover Authority (N.S.W)

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee for Demolition of Structures to supersede AS 2601—1983.

In revising the Standard, the Committee has taken into account experience gained in the application of the first edition, the relative prevalence of the types of structures now being demolished and the increasing trend towards the mechanization of demolition procedures. An increase of public awareness and worker expectations regarding safety issues, as embodied in the provisions of the National Occupational Health and Safety Act (1985), as well as increased concern regarding protection of the environment have also been taken into account.

The following brief outline indicates the principal changes from the previous edition.

1 Reorganization of contents Requirements which have general application have all been grouped together in Section 1. This has basically involved the combination of the previous Sections 1 and 2, together with the incorporation of relevant clauses from other sections. Elsewhere, previous subclauses have been incorporated as paragraphs in enlarged main clauses and the clauses regrouped according to principal subject matter.

2 Deletion of contractual requirements Requirements of a contractual nature and provision assigning responsibilities to persons or organizations, have been removed from the mandatory sections as a prerequisite for future reference of the Standard in statutory regulations. Much of this material has now been incorporated in the non-mandatory Appendix B.

3 Performance format Wherever possible, requirements have been expressed in performance rather than prescriptive terms. Although this tends to make compliance more judgmental, it encourages efficiency within the industry by allowing greater scope for innovation and the ready assimilation of changing technologies. It is also of assistance to users where the prescriptive requirements of the Regulatory Authorities differ from State to State.

4 New inclusions Requirements governing the use of earthmoving type machinery have been introduced. These have been included as a result of the increasing trend towards the use of this type of equipment as a primary demolition tool and some problems associated with their application to the demolition of multi-storied buildings. The requirements have been based on a related Code of Practice recently introduced (1988) by the Workcover Authority of NSW (formerly Department of Industrial Relations and Employment) and acknowledgement is made of the assistance obtained from this source.

Procedures for forms of construction not previously covered have been introduced in Section 3, and a new appendix on qualifications and certification of personnel has also been added.

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