

Australian Standard™

**Work in compressed air and hyperbaric facilities**

**Part 1: Work in tunnels, shafts and caissons**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee SF-046, Non-diving Work in Compressed Air and Hyperbaric Treatment Facilities. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 2 January 2003 and published on 16 January 2003.

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The following are represented on Committee SF-046:

Australian and New Zealand Hyperbaric Medicine Group  
Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists  
Australian Industry Group  
Australian Medical Association  
Hyperbaric Engineering Industry Forum  
Hyperbaric Technicians and Nurses Association  
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## **Work in compressed air and hyperbaric facilities**

### **Part 1: Work in tunnels, shafts and caissons**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by Standards Australia Committee SF-046, Non-diving Work in Compressed Air and Hyperbaric Treatment Facilities, to supersede AS CA12—1970, *Work in compressed air (known as the SAA Compressed Air Code)*.

Technological advances and a greatly increased availability of data concerning the effects of working in compressed air have identified a need to expand and split this Standard into two parts with Part 1 (this part) essentially a revision of AS CA12—1970 covering work in tunnels, shafts and caissons, and Part 2 specifying requirements for work in hyperbaric oxygen facilities.

The revision includes the insertion of metric values with both figures for bar gauge (as used in the industry) and the SI unit of kilopascals shown to reduce the risk of errors in conversions between the two. The Standard has been modified extensively during this revision and attention is drawn to the following changes:

- (a) The Standard has been modified to address tunnel boring machines.
- (b) Staged decompression using oxygen breathing has been specified.
- (c) A requirement has been added for a hazard identification, risk assessment and control process to be conducted prior to work in compressed air being undertaken.

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

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<b>SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL</b>	
1.1 SCOPE .....	5
1.2 OBJECTIVE .....	5
1.3 APPLICATION .....	5
1.4 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS .....	5
1.5 DEFINITIONS .....	5
<b>SECTION 2 PERSONNEL AND DUTIES</b>	
2.1 DUTY OF CONSTRUCTOR .....	8
2.2 LOCK OPERATOR .....	8
2.3 TREATMENT CHAMBER OPERATOR .....	9
2.4 FIRST-AID PERSONNEL .....	9
2.5 MEDICAL OFFICER .....	9
2.6 COMPRESSOR MONITORING .....	10
<b>SECTION 3 HAZARD IDENTIFICATION, RISK ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL</b>	
3.1 CONSULTATION .....	11
3.2 HAZARD IDENTIFICATION, RISK ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL PROCESS .....	11
3.3 HAZARD IDENTIFICATION .....	11
3.4 RISK ASSESSMENT .....	12
3.5 RISK CONTROL .....	12
<b>SECTION 4 PLANNING AND PROCEDURES</b>	
4.1 PLANNING .....	14
4.2 PROCEDURES .....	14
4.3 TRAINING .....	14
4.4 COMMUNICATIONS .....	15
4.5 IDENTIFICATION BADGE .....	15
4.6 NOTICES AND INSTRUCTIONS .....	15
4.7 PROHIBITION OF SMOKING, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS .....	16
4.8 MAXIMUM PERIODS IN COMPRESSED AIR .....	16
4.9 COMPRESSION .....	16
4.10 DECOMPRESSION .....	17
4.11 VENTILATION OF THE WORKING CHAMBER .....	17
4.12 CHANGE IN WORKING PRESSURE .....	19
4.13 DECANTING .....	20
4.14 SAFETY RESCUE SYSTEM .....	20
4.15 CONTROL OF OXYGEN .....	20
<b>SECTION 5 MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS</b>	
5.1 MEDICAL CERTIFICATION .....	21
5.2 MEDICAL PRACTITIONER .....	21
5.3 SUPERVISION OF HEALTH .....	21

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