

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.

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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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.

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