

Australian Standard™

The demolition of structures

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The following interests are represented on Committee BD-059:

Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union
Consumers Federation of Australia
Demolition Contractors Association of Australia
Demolition Contractors Association of New South Wales
Demolition Contractors Association of Victoria
Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (NSW)
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The demolition of structures

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee BD-059, Demolition of Structures, to supersede AS 2601—1991.

The objective of this Standard is to provide guidance to planners, engineers, contractors and interested parties on the planning and procedures for the demolition of a structure.

In revising the Standard, the Committee has taken into account experience gained in the application of the second 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 well as increased concern regarding protection of the environment have also been taken into account as well as ecologically sustainable developments. Also addressed has been the changing face of the construction industry in terms of legislative requirements and the trend towards privatization of certifiers and the decrease in the input from regulatory authorities.

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

- 1 **Reorganization of contents** The Standard has been reorganized so as to be more performance based. The prescriptive items regarding the method for demolishing certain structures has been relocated to an informative appendix, as the committee realizes that there may be more appropriate means of achieving the safe falling of a structure, which requires the contractor to understand and apply risk management when considering a new job. The prescriptive requirements in relation to protection and the health and safety of employees and the public has been retained.
- 2 **Planning and execution** The Standard places an emphasis on the planning and execution of a demolition project. The requirements for planning and execution have been expanded upon, which has resulted in the addition of a new Section (see Section 2).
- 3 **Regulating Authorities** The Standard has taken account the varying requirements of regulating authorities in the States and Territories, and has addressed this by the removal of regulatory requirements from the main body of the Standard. An appendix has been added for guidance. The Appendix places emphasis on the demolition contractor to ensure work is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the State or Territory, as applicable. The guidance is current at the time of publication. However, it is the demolition contractor's duty to ensure that the relevant requirements of authority and qualifications are current.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is for information and guidance only.

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