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**AS 1873—1978**  
UDC 621.97.044

# Australian Standard 1873—1978

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## EXPLOSIVE-POWERED HAND-HELD FASTENING TOOLS, FASTENERS AND EXPLOSIVE CHARGES

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THE FOLLOWING, SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL organizations and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

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Confederation of Australian Industry  
Department of Defence  
Departments of Labour and Industry  
Department of Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs  
Department of Productivity  
Electrical Contractors Federation  
Electricity Supply Association of Australia  
Safety Institute of Australia  
Telecom Australia

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This standard, prepared by Committee SF/29, Explosive-powered Tools Fasteners and Charges, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 13 February 1978, and was published on 1 June 1978.

To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are regularly reviewed. Suggestions for improvement to published standards addressed to the head office of the Association, are welcomed.

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*This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 75055*

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**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD**

**EXPLOSIVE-POWERED  
HAND-HELD  
FASTENING TOOLS,  
FASTENERS AND  
EXPLOSIVE CHARGES**

**AS 1873—1978**

First published ..... 1978

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## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Explosive Powered Tools, Fasteners and Charges, under the direction of the Safety Standards Board.

In Part 1 it sets out the design, construction and performance requirements considered necessary for the safe operation of explosive-powered hand-held tools. In Part 2 it gives requirements for fasteners and explosive charges. Part 3 provides recommendations for the selection, operation and maintenance of tools.

The standard covers both direct-acting and indirect-acting tools and separately specifies velocity and energy limits above which additional guarding and closing pressures are required.

The colour coding specified for charges aligns with that which has been in use in Australia for several years. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is in the process of developing an alternative order of colour coding, which attempts to take account of differing codes currently in use in the U.S.A. and Europe. The Australian committee was of the opinion that any changes to the Australian colour code should be deferred until the ISO developments are more complete, thus avoiding unnecessary duplication of changes in tooling, in education and in cost to the community and industry.

It is intended that this standard will be reviewed as soon as the ISO standards are confirmed.

This standard may require reference to the following standards:

- AS 1122 Recommended Metric Sizes for Engineering
- AS 1270 Hearing Protection Devices
- AS 1319 SAA Code for Industrial Accident Prevention Signs
- AS 1337 Industrial Eye Protectors
- AS-K185 Colours for Specific Purposes

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