



# Water storage tanks for fire protection systems



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee FP-008, Fire Pumps and Tanks. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 20 December 2018. This Standard was published on 23 January 2019.

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The following are represented on Committee FP-008:

- Association of Hydraulic Services Consultants Australia
  - Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council
  - Engineers Australia
  - Fire Protection Association Australia
  - Insurance Council of Australia
  - Master Plumbers Australia
  - Pump Industry Australia
  - Specialised Textiles Association
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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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Australian Standard®

## **Water storage tanks for fire protection systems**

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## PREFACE

This Australian Standard was prepared by Standards Australia Committee FP-008, Fire Pumps and Tanks.

The objective of this Standard is to set out the minimum requirements for the design, construction, installation and commissioning of bolted steel circular and rectangular water tanks for the storage of water for fire protection systems. This Standard also provides guidance on water sources and qualities that influence tank design and construction, together with water conservation measures.

Section 11, the provisions for maintenance of water storage tanks for fire protection purposes, has been removed in this revision. The maintenance provisions are now detailed in AS 1851 *Routine servicing of fire protection systems and equipment*.

Other minor changes have been made covering side access manways and platforms and external ladders, as well as the provision of a Commissioning Checklist and Completion Certification (Appendix F) and baseline data (Appendix G).

This Standard was developed taking into consideration local and international Standards.

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

*This Standard includes a commentary on some of the clauses. The commentary directly follows the relevant clause, is designated by 'C' preceding the clause number and is printed in italics in a box. The commentary is for information and guidance and does not form part of the Standard.*

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
FOREWORD.....	5
SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL	
1.1 SCOPE.....	6
1.2 OBJECTIVE.....	7
1.3 NORMATIVE REFERENCES.....	7
1.4 APPLICATION.....	8
1.5 DEFINITIONS.....	9
1.6 NOTATION.....	11
1.7 TANK TYPES AND DESCRIPTIONS.....	14
SECTION 2 WATER SOURCES	
2.1 GENERAL.....	16
2.2 WATER SOURCES.....	16
SECTION 3 MATERIALS	
3.1 GENERAL.....	17
3.2 STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS.....	17
3.3 PIPE AND FITTINGS.....	17
3.4 CORROSION PROTECTION.....	17
3.5 GASKETS AND SEALANTS.....	18
3.6 TANK LINERS.....	18
SECTION 4 DESIGN ACTIONS (LOADS)	
4.1 GENERAL.....	20
4.2 PERMANENT ACTION.....	20
4.3 LIQUID PRESSURE ACTION.....	20
4.4 IMPOSED ACTIONS.....	22
4.5 WIND ACTION.....	23
4.6 EARTHQUAKE ACTION.....	24
4.7 SNOW AND ICE ACTIONS.....	28
4.8 COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS.....	29
SECTION 5 TANK DESIGN	
5.1 GENERAL.....	30
5.2 MINIMUM STEEL THICKNESS.....	30
5.3 BOLTED STEEL CIRCULAR WATER STORAGE TANK DESIGN.....	30
5.4 BOLTED STEEL RECTANGULAR WATER STORAGE TANK DESIGN.....	37
SECTION 6 TANK FOUNDATIONS	
6.1 GENERAL.....	41
6.2 CIRCULAR TANKS.....	42
6.3 RECTANGULAR TANKS.....	43
SECTION 7 ACCESSORIES	
7.1 GENERAL.....	45
7.2 TANK ACCESS.....	45
7.3 HYDRAULIC COMPONENTS.....	47

	<i>Page</i>
7.4 MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENTS .....	51
7.5 CAPACITIES .....	53
<b>SECTION 8 BREAK TANKS</b>	
8.1 GENERAL.....	54
8.2 CONSTRUCTION.....	54
8.3 CAPACITY .....	54
8.4 FILL INLETS .....	54
8.5 SUCTION LINE AND VORTEX INHIBITORS .....	56
8.6 WATER LEVEL INDICATOR .....	56
8.7 TANK BAFFLING .....	56
8.8 TANK OVERFLOW .....	56
<b>SECTION 9 SHARED USE, RAINWATER AND HEATING AND COOLING TANKS</b>	
9.1 GENERAL.....	57
9.2 SHARED USE.....	57
9.3 RAINWATER .....	57
9.4 HEATING AND COOLING.....	57
<b>SECTION 10 COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE</b>	
10.1 GENERAL.....	58
10.2 COMMISSIONING .....	58
10.3 MAINTENANCE .....	58
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
A WATER CONSERVATION.....	59
B TANK LINERS .....	61
C WATER SOURCE AND QUALITY .....	62
D GUIDELINE FOR USE OF DIVERS FOR TANK MAINTENANCE .....	63
E EXAMPLES OF WIND BUCKLING CALCULATIONS .....	64
F PROPOSAL COMMISSIONING CHECKLIST AND COMPLETION CERTIFICATE.....	78
G BASELINE DATA .....	83
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>84</b>

## FOREWORD

This Standard has been developed to provide reliable water storage for fire protection purposes. Water storage tanks that are not designed correctly nor adequately maintained are prone to failure.

Design provisions for bolted steel tanks are covered in this Standard. Design provisions for tanks made from other materials are not covered by this Standard and may be included in future editions.

This Standard applies to suction tanks for sprinkler, hydrant and hose reel systems as well as for break tanks and dual-use fire protection storage tanks.

Steel tanks consist of a floor (either steel, concrete or liner), cylindrical or rectangular shell fabricated from steel plates joined together, and a roof, all of which rest upon a foundation. Tanks are filled with water from an outside source. Water is withdrawn in emergency situations through piping connected to a pump. Accessory items are provided to fill and drain the tank, monitor the water level, gain access for inspection and repair, provide means for accessing the water and to prevent positive or negative pressures, etc.

For tanks manufactured from materials other than bolted steel and bolted cast iron, the accessories and maintenance provisions of this Standard apply.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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**Australian Standard**  
**Water storage tanks for fire protection systems**

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## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out the minimum requirements for the design, construction, installation and commissioning of bolted steel circular and rectangular water tanks for the storage of water for fire protection systems. Additionally, where a fire protection tank is constructed of materials other than bolted steel or bolted cast iron, this Standard details the accessory items that are required to be provided and the necessary commissioning and maintenance requirements.

This Standard also provides guidance on water sources and qualities that influence tank design and construction, together with water conservation measures.

This Standard is limited to—

- (a) the tank structure;
- (b) the tank foundation; and
- (c) tank penetrations and related accessories.

The requirements cover—

- (i) bolted steel and bolted cast iron tanks with and without liners.
- (ii) all other fire service tank accessories (Section 7).

This Standard applies to the following systems, where applicable:

- (A) Automatic fire sprinkler systems to AS 2118.1.
- (B) Fire hydrant systems to AS 2419.1.
- (C) Fire hose reel systems to AS/NZS 1221.
- (D) Combined sprinkler and hydrant systems in multistorey buildings to AS 2118.6.
- (E) Residential sprinkler systems to AS 2118.4.
- (F) Fire pumpsets to AS 2941.

This Standard does not apply to the design and application of the following:

- (1) Plastic tanks.
- (2) Fibreglass tanks.
- (3) Agricultural and rainwater tanks.
- (4) Drinking water tanks.
- (5) Wooden tanks.
- (6) Non-ferrous metal tanks.
- (7) Bladder tanks.
- (8) Welded steel tanks.
- (9) Concrete tanks.