

Australian Standard[®]

**Suitability of plumbing and water
distribution systems products for
contact with potable water**

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Committee for Plumbing Products Authorization (CPPA) and endorsed by Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Joint Advisory Committee on Piping and Plumbing to supersede AS 3855(Int)—1992, *Suitability of plumbing products for contact with potable water*.

The first edition of SAA MP52—1988, *Manual of authorization procedures for plumbing and drainage products*, contained Specification No. 016—Materials, which included Clause 6.16.2 referring to the contamination of water. The reference to contamination of water was transferred from MP52—1988 to AS 3855(Int)—1990 for the purpose of certification.

For plumbing products in contact with hot water and cold potable water, compliance with the requirements for contact with cold water of AS 4020(Int)—1994, *Products for use in contact with water intended for human consumption with regard to their effect on the quality of water*, or BS 6920, *Suitability of non-metallic products for use in contact with water intended for human consumption with regard to their effect on the quality of the water*, Part 1: *Specification* and Part 2: *Methods of test*, shall be acceptable for two years from the publication of AS 4020 as a full Standard.

For water distribution system products in contact with potable water, compliance with AS 3855 will satisfy the requirements of the water agencies. This edition has maintained references to AS 4020(Int)—1994, BS 6920 (Parts 1 and 2) and ANSI/NSF 61, *Drinking water system components—Health effects*, and has been amended to reduce the maximum lead content of metal and metal alloy components to 4.5% by 1 January 1995. This reduction in lead content had been negotiated between the Standing Committee Plumbing and Drainage and Standards Australia Committee WS/1 in 1987 and had been noted in Specification No. 016 of the first edition of MP52—1988. The reduction in lead content is also consistent with the recommendations of the N.S.W. Government Interdepartmental Taskforce on 'Lead in Water and Wastewater' published on 23 December 1993.

Within two years from the publication of AS 4020 as a full Standard the option of compliance with the maximum lead content of 4.5% as an alternative to compliance with AS 4020(Int) will no longer be permitted.

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