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AS 2581-1998

PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE PLASTICS LABELS FOR PERMANENT USE (GENERAL PURPOSE)



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter



This Australian standard was prepared by Committee MS/44, Pressure Sensitive Labels. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 3 June 1985, and published on 9 August 1985.

The following interests are represented on Committee MS/44:

Australian Retailers Association
Confederation of Australian Industry
Department of Defence
Packaging Council of Australia
Plastics Institute of Australia Incorporated
Printing and Allied Trades Employers' Federation of Australia
Railways of Australia Committee
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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**PRESSURE SENSITIVE
ADHESIVE PLASTICS LABELS
FOR PERMANENT USE
(GENERAL PURPOSE)**

AS 2581—1985

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PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Pressure Sensitive Labels, to supersede AS 2581—1983. The standard was originally prepared following an urgent request from the Department of Defence which has a heavy demand for labels for a wide variety of purposes, including labels for use on boxes, machinery, dangerous goods and explosives cases.

The standard was derived from BS 4781, Self-adhesive Labels for Permanent Use, Part 1: General Purpose Labels, and Part 2: Requirements for Stringent Conditions.

Purchasing guidelines are provided in Appendix A which also contains annexes giving suggestions for additional stringent requirements where they may apply.

This revised edition follows representation from the Department of Defence and contains an addition to Appendix A, viz Annex 6, Suggested Requirements for Resistance to Stringent Conditions of Marine Exposure.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

for

**PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE PLASTICS LABELS
FOR PERMANENT USE (GENERAL PURPOSE)**

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE. This standard specifies requirements for pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) plastics labels for permanent adhesion to compatible surfaces under temperate conditions.

NOTES:

1. Purchasing guidelines are given in Appendix A and annexes to Appendix A provide suggestions for specifying additional, selected, stringent requirements where requirements for certain stringent conditions call for the provision of further, special product standards for PSA plastics labels.
2. Application of the standard may be extended to cover special stringent conditions by the specification of additional requirements selected from the annexes to Appendix A.

1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS. The following standards are referred to in this standard:

- AS 1580 Methods of Test for Paints and Related Materials
Method 452.1 Resistance to Humidity under Condensation Conditions
Method 481.5 Determination of the Durability, Resistance to Corrosion, and Resistance to Fouling of Marine Underwater Paint Systems
Method 483.1 Resistance to Artificial Weathering (Carbon-arc Type Instruments)
- AS 1599 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive Packaging Tapes
- AS 1701 White Spirit
- AS 1734 Wrought Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy Flat Sheet, Coiled Sheet and Plate for General Engineering Purposes
- AS 2001 Methods of Test for Textiles Part 4—Colourfastness Tests Method 1—Definitions and General Requirements
- AS 2193 Methods for Calibration and Grading of Force-measuring Systems of Testing Machines
- BS 507 Ethanol (Denatured with 2 percent Methanol)
- BS 872 Abrasive Papers and Cloths (Technical Products)
- BS 3223 Calcium-base Greases
- BS 3591 Industrial Methylated Spirits
- BS 3955 Electrical Controls for Domestic Appliances Part 1—General Requirements
- BS 4475 Straight Mineral Lubricating Oils

ANSI/ASTM G 53-83 Operating Light- and Water-exposure Apparatus (Fluorescent UV-condensation Type) for Exposure of Non-metallic Materials.

1.3 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

1.3.1 Pressure sensitive adhesive plastics label (self-adhesive label) (hereinafter referred to as a 'label')—a label, plate, panel or decorative trim bearing a legend or symbol (for any purpose, e.g. identification, instruction, warning, decoration) and made of plastics sheet or film to which a pressure sensitive adhesive has been applied as an integral part of the construction.

1.3.2 Permanent adhesion—adhesion of such nature that the label, after fixing to the product, cannot be readily removed or moved.

1.3.3 Pressure sensitive adhesive—an adhesive which, in dry form, will firmly adhere to a variety of surfaces on contact and application of pressure alone.

1.3.4 Protective release backing—a specially treated material affixed to the adhesive surface of the label to protect that surface until the time of application.

1.3.5 Product—the article, appliance, equipment, machine or part to which the label is to be applied.

1.4 MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION. The label shall consist of plastics sheet or film with a backing coat of adhesive and a protective release backing which shall be readily and completely removable (see Clause 2.1).

1.5 DIMENSIONS AND TOLERANCES. The dimensions and tolerances of labels shall be as specified by the purchaser (see Appendix A, Paragraph A3(b)).

1.6 FINISHING, PACKAGING AND MARKING.

1.6.1 Finishing. Rolls not to be wound so tight as to cause oozing of the adhesive around the edge of the label. Cardboard core shall not be less in width than 50 percent of the width of the label web.

1.6.2 Packaging. Labels shall be packed so that they are adequately protected from damage in transportation and from deterioration due to climatic conditions.

1.6.3 Marking. The following information shall be clearly marked on each package:

- (a) Manufacturer's or supplier's name.
- (b) Manufacturer's identification (face stock, adhesive, backing).