

Australian Standard™

**Timber—Heavy structural products—
Visually graded**

Part 2: Railway track timbers

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee TM-003, Timber Grading. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 12 January 2004 and published on 29 March 2004.

The following are represented on Committee TM-003:

Australian Timber Importers' Association
CSIRO—Building, Construction and Engineering
Curtin University of Technology
Forest and Forest Products Employment Skills
Housing Industry Association
Master Builders Australia
New Zealand Forest Research Institute
New Zealand Timber Industry Federation
New Zealand Timber Suppliers Group
Plantation Timber Association of Australia
Queensland Forestry Research Institute
State Forests of New South Wales
Timber Promotion Council
Timber Research and Development Advisory Council
University of Technology, Sydney

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Rail Infrastructure Corporation
Queensland Rail

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Part 2: Railway track timbers

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee TM-003, Timber Grading to supersede AS 3818.2—1998. After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard, rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide producers and users of railway track timbers with requirements for the visual grading and selection of species for such timbers intended for use in railway track.

This is Part 2 of the AS 3818 series *Timber—Heavy structural products—Visually graded* composed of the following parts:

Part 1: General requirements

Part 2: Railway track timbers

Part 3: Piles

Part 4: Cross-arms for overhead lines

Part 5: Mine lift guides

Part 6: Decking for wharves and bridges

Changes from the previous edition include the following:

- (a) New grades for sleepers have been included.
- (b) The list of species has been moved to AS 3818.1.

An Appendix has been included to give advice on information required for purchasing orders.

Grading rules for 600 mm gauge railway track sleepers (sugar cane industry) are not included.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA**Australian Standard****Timber—Heavy structural products—Visually graded****Part 2: Railway track timbers****1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out the minimum requirements for visually graded rail track sleepers, special sleepers for lead, crossing or turnout timbers and bridge transoms.

NOTES:

- 1 Purchasing guidelines are given in Appendix A.
- 2 It is intended that sleepers be predominantly backsawn (see Clause 7.1) and laid in track with the back upwards, that is, with the heart face down.

2 APPLICATION

This Standard shall be used in conjunction with AS 3818.1 to specify rail track timbers. Species for rail track timbers are listed in AS 3818.1.

3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 1720 | Timber structures |
| 1720.1 | Part 1: Design methods |
| 1720.2 | Part 2: Timber properties |
| 3818 | Timber—Heavy structural products—Visually graded |
| 3818.1 | Part 1: General requirements |
| 5604 | Timber—Natural durability rating |

AS/NZS

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2878 | Timber—Classification into strength groups |
| 4063 | Timber—Stress-graded—In-grade strength and stiffness evaluation |

4 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS 3818.1 apply.

5 TIMBER SPECIES**5.1 General**

Species for rail track timbers are listed in AS 3818.1.

If timbers are supplied as a mixture of species and the timber is not marked or branded as required by AS 3818.1, then the strength group applicable to the species of the lowest strength group shall apply to the whole parcel and the durability class applicable to the species of the lowest durability class in the parcel shall also apply to the whole parcel.

Species other than those listed for rail track timbers in AS 3818.1 may be graded to this Standard subject to agreement between the purchaser and supplier.