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2418,  
part 2

AS 2418, Part 2—1982  
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# Australian Standard 2418, Part 2—1982

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**GLOSSARY OF TERMS RELATING TO  
SOLID MINERAL FUELS**

**Part 2—TERMS RELATING TO  
COAL MINING  
AND GEOLOGY**



**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**  
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The following interests were represented on the committee responsible for the preparation of this standard:

Australian Coal Association  
Australian Institute of Energy  
Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy  
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia  
Coal Preparation Societies of N.S.W. and Queensland  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
CSIRO, Division of Fossil Fuels  
Department of Minerals and Energy, Victoria  
Department of Mineral Resources, N.S.W.  
Department of National Development and Energy  
Electricity Supply Association of Australia  
Institution of Engineers, Australia  
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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**GLOSSARY OF TERMS RELATING TO  
SOLID MINERAL FUELS**

**Part 2  
TERMS RELATING TO COAL  
MINING AND GEOLOGY**

**AS 2418, Part 2—1982**

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## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Coal and Coke under the direction of the Minerals Standards Committee as a part revision of AS K 149—1966. The revision was undertaken to increase uniformity in the terms used in the coal industry without necessarily implying precise scientific meaning.

Terms which are deprecated are indicated or have been removed completely during the revision. Some 'non-preferred' terms are as indicated.

Other parts of AS 2418 are as follows:

Part 1—Terms Relating to Coal Preparation

Part 3—Terms Relating to Brown Coal

Part 4—Terms Relating to Sampling, Sample Preparation, Analysis, Testing and Statistics

Part 5—Terms Relating to the Petrographic Analysis of Bituminous Coal and Anthracite (Hard Coal)

Part 6—Terms Relating to Coal Utilization and Coke

Part 7—Terms Relating to Coal Classification

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## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS RELATING TO SOLID MINERAL FUELS

## PART 2—TERMS RELATING TO COAL MINING AND GEOLOGY

Term	Explanation
adit	A nearly horizontal opening for access, drainage or ventilation of a mine.
anisotropic	Descriptive term for a substance with different physical properties when measured in different directions.
anticline	A convex upward fold structure with older rocks in its core. The folded strata or layers are inclined downward from the axial plane.
banded coals	Coals composed of alternate bright and dull layers parallel to the bedding plane.
basin	A depression of large size caused by tectonic or erosional events or processes.
bed moisture	The total moisture in a seam of coal before working.
bedding	Stratification in sedimentary rocks brought about by deposition of different materials. The term is normally used where the individual layers (or beds) are greater than 10 mm in thickness. ( <i>See also</i> lamination.)
bedding plane	A boundary plane between beds or layers of sedimentary rock.
bone coal ( <i>non-preferred term</i> )	<i>See</i> stony coal.
bord	The main openings driven into the coal in the 'first workings' of a panel or block of coal being extracted by the bord and pillar mining method.
bord and pillar	The method of underground mining in which a series of parallel bords are driven into the block of coal being extracted and connected by a second series of openings called cut-throughs which are generally at right angles. Thus pillars are formed which are later extracted as far as possible.
bright coals	Coals of bright, lustrous appearance consisting predominantly of vitrain and clarain.
carbonaceous shale carbonaceous mudstone	Sediments containing disseminated coaly fragments and with ash over 50 percent (dry basis).
chitter	Waste rock broken and separated from the coal during beneficiation. The term is usually applied to material coarser than 0.5 mm in particle size.
clarain	A bright coal lithotype, with lustre intermediate between vitrain and durain, finely striated parallel with the coal banding by dull microbands.
clastic rocks	Rocks (chiefly sedimentary) composed of fragments from pre-existing rocks. The fragments have been produced by weathering and erosion and transported to a depositional area.
clay band	A layer of claystone arranged parallel to the bedding plane and usually thicker than a parting. A colloquial term used infrequently.
cleat	A fracture or system of fractures in a coal seam or lithotype which are usually roughly perpendicular to the plies and along which the coal is more easily broken up. The term is used to distinguish between fractures in the coal and the joints in the overlying and underlying rocks.
cleavage	A plane, or series of planes, in a mineral crystal or a rock along which it can be readily split.
coal	A predominantly organic sedimentary rock, formed from plant remains, variously altered and buried under an appreciable thickness of superimposed strata. The characteristics of different coals are due to variations in the kinds of parent material, variations in depositional environment, preservation, the conditions and degree of change resulting from their geological history and the range, amount, and proportions of the impurities present.
coal cutter	A machine that cuts a deep narrow slot in the coal face to assist breaking out the coal in conventional mining.
coal measures	A layered sequence essentially of sedimentary rocks containing coal seams.
coal seam	A bed of coal, or made up mainly of coal, enveloped by other sedimentary strata.
coalification	The process of gradual physical and organic chemical change or metamorphism which takes place during the progressive development of coal from plant remains, through peat and brown coal to anthracite. It is characterized essentially by an increasing proportion of carbon and a decreasing proportion of oxygen.
conchoidal fracture	A gently curved concentrically ribbed type of fracture, sometimes with arcuate ridges and depressions (shell-like) produced by the fracture of brittle rock.
continuous miner	A self-propelled, tracked machine, usually electrically-powered which cuts the coal with an arrangement of rotating picks, and simultaneously loads it out.