

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Insulating and sheathing materials for  
electric cables**

## **AS/NZS 3808:2000**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-003, Electric Wires and Cables. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 28 March 2000 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 11 April 2000.

This Standard was published on 12 May 2000.

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Department of Mineral Resources, N.S.W.  
Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand  
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**RECONFIRMATION**  
**OF**  
**AS/NZS 3808:2000**  
**Insulating and sheathing materials for electric cables**

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Technical Committee EL-003 has reviewed the content of this publication and in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation, it has been determined that the publication is still valid and does not require change.

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## NOTES

## Australian/New Zealand Standard™

# Insulating and sheathing materials for electric cables

Originated as AS/NZS 3808:1998  
Second edition 2000  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (July 2002).  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 2 (August 2004).

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-003, Electric Wires and Cables to supersede AS/NZS 3808:1998, Insulating and sheathing materials for electric cables.

*This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (July 2002) and Amendment No. 2 (August 2004). The changes required by the Amendments are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.*

The objective of the Standard is to provide manufacturers and suppliers with specifications for compounds and tests, referenced in particular Standards, for insulating and sheathing materials used in the construction of electric cables and flexible cords.

This Standard does not supersede insulating and sheathing material requirements in existing cable Standards but will apply when referenced in future editions of cable Standards.

This Standard differs from the superseded Standard as follows:

- (a) The definition of materials used in reduced fire hazard cables has been modified.
- (b) X-FP-90 insulation has been deleted.
- (c) The median loss of mass criteria for PVC materials after ageing in an air oven has been increased.
- (d) The minimum oxygen concentration test for insulation materials used in reduced fire hazard cables has been deleted.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables and figures are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

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**Australian/New Zealand Standard**  
**Insulating and sheathing materials for electric cables**  
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**1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies the tests and criteria for elastomeric, PVC, reduced fire hazard and polyolefin insulating and sheathing materials used in the construction of electric cables and flexible cords and referenced in Australian and Australian/New Zealand Standards. It applies to electric cables and cords designed for working voltages up to and including 76/132(145) kV. This Standard does not cover tests that can only be conducted on completed cables, e.g. partial discharge,  $\tan \delta$ , impulse, high voltage, shrinkage and adhesion tests.

The requirements of this Standard only apply when referenced in other relevant Standards. This Standard does not supersede requirements in existing Standards.

NOTE: Insulating and sheathing materials in other relevant Standards are listed in Table A1 of Appendix A.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

## AS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 1026   | Electric cables—Impregnated paper insulated—Working voltages up to and including 33 kV                                      |
| 1049   | Telecommunication cables—Insulation, sheath and jacket  |
| 1178   | Concentric wire neutral cables—XLPE insulated—For electricity supply at working voltages of 0.6/1 kV                        |
| 1429   | Electric cables—Polymeric insulated   |
| 1429.1 | Part 1: For working voltages 1.9/3.3(3.6) kV up to and including 19/33(36) kV   |
| 1747   | Reeling, trailing and feeder cables used for mining—Repair and testing  |
| 1979   | Electric cables—Lifts—Flexible travelling   |
| 2276   | Cables for traffic signal installations   |
| 2276.1 | Part 1: Multicore power cables  |
| 2276.3 | Part 3: Loop cable for vehicle detectors  |
| 2802   | Electric cables—Reeling and trailing—For mining and general use (other than underground coal mining)                        |
| 3158   | Approval and test specification—Electric cables—Glass fibre insulated for working voltages up to and including 0.6/1 kV     |
| 3178   | Approval and test specification—Electric cables—Silicone rubber insulated—For working voltages up to and including 0.6/1 kV |