

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

**Pressure-sensitive labels for stock-  
paper, stock-plastic and general  
purpose use**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee PK-025, Packaging Code. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 30 September 2007. This Standard was published on 13 November 2007.

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The following are represented on Committee PK-025:

- Australian Paints Manufacturers Federation
  - Canmakers Institute of Australia
  - Printing Industries Associations of Australia
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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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**Pressure-sensitive labels for stock-  
paper, stock-plastic and general  
purpose use**

Originated as AS 2581—1983, AS 2666—1983 and AS 2776—1985.  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee PK-025, Packaging Code to supersede AS 2581—1998, *Pressure-sensitive adhesive labels for general purpose use*, AS 2666—1996, *Pressure-sensitive adhesive label stock—Paper* and AS 2776—1998, *Pressure-sensitive adhesive label stock—Plastic*.

The objective of this Standard is to specify new materials and to combine AS 2581—1998, AS 2666—1996 and AS 2776—1998 into the same Standard.

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.

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## FOREWORD

Pressure-sensitive adhesive labels consist of a wide variety of base materials (e.g. paper and plastic), coated uniformly with a suitable adhesive composition and wound evenly into rolls on suitable cores.

The suitability of a label for a particular labelling application depends on the base material of the label and the conditions to which the label may be subjected in transit or in service.

A knowledge of the various label constructions and their characteristics will assist the label user to choose the most suitable label for a given purpose.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

### Australian Standard

## Pressure-sensitive labels for stock-paper, stock-plastic and general purpose use

### SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

#### 1.1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies requirements for pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) labels for general purpose use for paper-based label stock and plastic-based label stock.

##### NOTES:

- 1 Purchasing guidelines and the main applications of the various tapes are given in Appendix A.
- 2 Label stock is intended for conversion (by the label stock converter) to many of the plastic and paper labels for use on a variety of surfaces.
- 3 Pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) labels are sometimes known as a 'self-adhesive label' or 'label'.

#### 1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

##### AS

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1599      | Pressure-sensitive and water activated adhesive tape for packaging and office applications |
| 2313      | Methods of test for single sided and double sided pressure-sensitive adhesive tape         |
| 2313.1.1  | Method 1.1: Adhesion—Peel adhesion   |
| 2313.1.2  | Method 1.2: Adhesion—Quickstick  |
| 2313.1.10 | Method 1.10: Adhesion—Resistance to static shear load at ambient temperature               |
| 2313.1.13 | Method 1.13: Adhesion—Resistance to shear (holding power) at ambient temperature           |
| 2313.2.1  | Method 2.1: Physical properties—Breaking strength  |
| 2313.2.6  | Method 2.6: Physical properties—Determining the thickness of release liner                 |
| 2313.2.7  | Method 2.7: Physical properties—Determining the grammage of release liner                  |
| 2313.3.5  | Method 3.5: Ageing properties—Determining dimensional stability of label stock             |
| 2313.4.1  | Method 4.1: Printing properties—Determining indelibility of printed labels                 |
| 2313.4.2  | Method 4.2: Printing properties—Determining lightfastness of printed labels                |
| 2313.4.3  | Method 4.3: Printing properties—Determining abrasive resistance                            |
| 2400      | Packaging  |
| 2400.1    | Part 1: Glossary of packaging terms  |

##### AS/NZS

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1301      | Methods of test for pulp and paper  |
| 1301.426s | Method 426s: Determination of thickness and apparent bulk density or apparent sheet density |