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TEXTILE PRODUCTS—FIBRE CONTENT LABELLING



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Australian Council of Furniture Manufacturers
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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Care Labelling of Textiles at the request of the Commonwealth, State and Territory Consumer Affairs Authorities.

It sets out two methods which may be used to designate the fibre content of textile products and specifies the manner in which the products shall be labelled. It also prescribes the method to be used for assessing fibre content and indicates the tolerances that apply. The generic names to be used are those listed in AS 2450, Glossary of Generic Names for Textile Fibres.

In developing this standard the committee considered present State and Commonwealth legislation relating to fibre content labelling, the EEC Directive on fibre content labelling published in 1971, and the international standard ISO 2076, Man-made Fibres—Generic Names.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
TEXTILE PRODUCTS—FIBRE CONTENT LABELLING

FOREWORD

Following increases in the importation of textile fibres, yarns, fabrics and made-up products, it was felt that an Australian standard for fibre content labelling should be prepared and that it should follow as closely as possible the percentage labelling method used since 1971 by members of the EEC. However, with the exception of wool, the current Textile Labelling Regulations require only that fibres be listed in order of dominance; this presents problems where a textile product is made from equal quantities of two fibres or where two fibres in a multifibre fabric constitute an equal percentage of the total mass. Order of dominance labelling infers a higher percentage of the first-named fibre which could be misleading to consumers. Alternatively, for various technical reasons, it could be difficult in some cases to designate the fibre content of made-up textile products accurately in percentage terms.

It was therefore decided that the two methods for labelling blended fibre textile products should be set out so that either method could be used as appropriate.

This standard is intended to be used in conjunction with existing Commonwealth and State textile labelling legislation.

STANDARD

1 SCOPE. This standard sets out alternative methods for designating the fibre content of textile products and for supplying this information on made-up products, piece goods and yarns, and prescribes the method to be used for assessing the fibre content.

2 APPLICATION. The standard is applicable to all textile products and is intended to be used in conjunction with Commonwealth and State textile labelling legislation.

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

- | | |
|---------|--|
| AS 2001 | Methods of Test for Textiles
2001.7 Quantitative Analysis of Fibre Mixtures |
| AS 2392 | Labelling of Clothing, Household Textiles and Furnishings |
| AS 2450 | Glossary of Generic Names for Textile Fibres |

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

4.1 Textile fibre—a unit of matter characterized by its flexibility, fineness and high ratio of length to thickness, which together render it suitable for textile applications.

4.2 Textile product—

- any raw, semi-manufactured or manufactured product composed of at least 80 percent by mass of textile fibre;
- textile components of furniture, umbrellas, sunshades, floor coverings, mattresses, camping goods, the linings of footwear, gloves and mittens which contain any textile fibre;
- any product incorporating one or more parts which contain at least 80 percent by mass of textile fibre and for which the fibre content is to be specified.

5 METHODS OF DESIGNATING FIBRE CONTENT. The two methods of designating the fibre content, either of which may be used, are as follows:

Method A—by listing, in descending order of dominance by mass, the generic name of each fibre type preceded by its percentage of the total mass of the textile product.

Method B—by listing, in descending order of dominance by mass, the generic name of each fibre type.

The generic names of natural and man-made fibres to be used are those specified in AS 2450.

6 DETERMINATION OF FIBRE CONTENT.

6.1 Test Method. The fibre content of a product shall be determined in accordance with the methods of AS 2001.7, as applicable.

6.2 Exclusions from Made-up Products. In determining the fibre content of made-up products, the following components shall be excluded:

- Wearing apparel and household textiles.* Basques, belting, binding, braids, buttons, collars, cuffs, gussets, labels; interlinings, fillings and/or padding, except in those instances where the filling or padding may affect the care treatments; and sewing threads, slide fasteners, tapes, elastic, ribbons and decorative trim applied by embroidery, overlay, applique or other methods of attachment.
- Carpets.* Backing unless such backing has the same fibre content as the pile.

6.3 Allowable Tolerances for Fibre Content. For textile products which have been manufactured from two types of fibre, the differences between the percentages stated on the label and those determined using the specified methods of measurement shall be not greater than 5 percent of the total mass of the fibre from which the product has been made.

For textile products which have been manufactured from more than two types of fibre, this allowance shall be calculated based on the two dominant fibres in the blend and the amount of the other(s) adjusted to suit.

7 LABELLING REQUIREMENTS.

7.1 Contents of Label.

7.1.1 General. The information given on the label, depending upon the textile product and the fibre designation method used, shall comply with whichever of Clauses 7.1.2 to 7.1.8 are appropriate.