

Australian Standard™

**Swimming pool safety**

**Part 3: Water recirculation systems**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CS-034, Safety of Private Swimming Pools. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 31 January 2003 and published on 18 March 2003.

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The following are represented on Committee CS-034:

Australian Building Codes Board  
Australian Industry Group  
Australian Institute of Building Surveyors  
Consumers Federation of Australia  
Department of Fair Trading NSW  
Kidsafe  
National Injury Surveillance Unit  
Planning South Australia  
Royal Life Saving Society Australia  
Swimming Pool and Spa Association of NSW  
Swimming Pool and Spa Association of WA

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**Part 3: Water recirculation systems**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS-034, Safety of Private Swimming Pools, to supersede AS 1926.3—1993, *Swimming pool safety, Part.3: Water recirculation and filtration systems*.

This Standard is part of a series dealing with fencing, location of fencing, and water recirculation systems.

The series of Standards is as follows:

AS

- 1926 Swimming pool safety
- 1926.1 Part 1: Fencing for swimming pools
- 1926.2 Part 2: Location of fencing for private swimming pools
- 1926.3 Part 3: Water recirculation system (this Standard)

The objective of this Standard is to provide regulatory authorities, pool and equipment manufacturers and pool users with requirements for skimmer boxes and other permanent water outlets in pools in order to minimize the chance of injuries in private swimming pool in Australia.

The major areas of change from the previous version of this Standard are as follows:

- (a) Change in terminology from suction to outlet.
- (b) New and specific reference to active main drains as a subset of outlets.
- (c) Specific design requirements for outlet systems added.
- (d) Design requirements for active main drains covers included.

The requirements of active main drain covers are based on research from the CSIRO and research conducted in the US. The stated requirements are semi prescriptive; however, the Committee is considering possible development of performance-based requirements and a suitable test method.

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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**STANDARDS AUSTRALIA****Australian Standard  
Swimming pool safety****Part 3: Water recirculation systems****1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out requirements for skimmer boxes, and other permanent water outlets in swimming pools.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following document is referred to in this Standard:

AS	
1926	Swimming pool safety
1926.1	Part 1: Fencing for swimming pools
AS/NZS	
1477	PVC pipes and fittings for pressure applications

**3 DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS 1926.1 and those below apply.

**3.1 Active main drain**

A suction outlet installed in the floor of a pool, which connects to the suction side of the pump.

**3.2 Anti vortex cover**

A fitting placed over an outlet from the pool and designed to reduce the circular or swirling motion of water drawn into the outlet.

**3.3 Outlets (excluding skimmer boxes)**

Those openings in the pool wall or floor through which water is drawn from the pool by a pump.

**3.4 Skimmer box**

The fitting attached to or set in the pool wall at water level, which is used as the main suction point for the filter pump and is intended to draw water from the pool surface to remove and collect debris.

**3.5 Swimming pool**

Any excavation or structure containing water to a depth greater than 300 mm and used primarily for swimming, wading, paddling or the like, including a bathing or wading pool.

NOTE: The definition of a swimming pool may vary from State to State. Refer to the appropriate regulatory authority.