

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

The storage and handling of LP Gas



AS/NZS 1596:2008

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ME-015, Storage and Handling—Liquefied Petroleum Gases. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 7 May 2008 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 19 May 2008. This Standard was published on 30 June 2008.

The following are represented on Committee ME-015:

Australasian Fire Authorities Council
Australian Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association
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Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, Tas.
Department of Natural Resources, Mines & Water, Qld
Department of the Premier and Cabinet, SA
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Australian/New Zealand Standard™

The storage and handling of LP Gas

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-015, Storage and Handling—Liquefied Petroleum Gases, to supersede AS/NZS 1596:2002, *The storage and handling of LP Gas*.

This edition is the result of a comprehensive review of the 2002 edition, in order to address new technologies and storage methods, update procedures in light of industry best practice, and correct and update references.

All general requirements, such as the use of firewalls and vapour barriers to achieve separation distances, have been consolidated in a new Section 3.

A major change in this new edition has been in the revision of Section 2, Minor storage and usage, to make the quantities more realistic and address the concerns of regulatory authorities, fire services, and the community at large, particularly in relation to the use of cylinders in public and protected places. Other substantial changes have been made in expansion of the sections dealing with cylinder storage and use, and cylinder systems and operations.

Separation rules for underground tanks have been made more consistent, reflecting their greater inherent safety than that of above-ground tanks.

This Standard has been revised in terms of safety and technical matters. The regulatory authorities in each state and territory determine how and when Standards are to be applied. The method of application may be full, part, with or without modifications or not at all. This application is not directed by the Standard. The relevant regulatory authority should be consulted regarding the application of this Standard.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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

Australian and New Zealand references are separated by a slash (/) or parentheses. Australian references apply in Australia, and New Zealand references apply in New Zealand. Joint Standards apply in both Australia and New Zealand.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

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SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE

This Standard specifies requirements for the location, design, construction, commissioning and operation of installations for the storage and handling of LP Gas, and includes the management of emergencies.

The objective of this Standard is to provide designers, planners, operators and regulators with technical and procedural requirements for installations for the safe storage and handling of LP Gas.

1.2 APPLICATION**1.2.1 Application of Standard**

This Standard shall be read as defining the minimum requirements of acceptability.

This Standard applies to installations commenced after its publication date. Unless specifically indicated in this Standard, it shall not apply to existing installations.

NOTE: 'Commenced', for the purpose of this Clause, means the point at which site or equipment construction has begun.

The relevant authority having jurisdiction may determine the extent of application of this Standard.

This Standard does not apply to the following situations:

- (a) Refrigerated storage of LP Gas.
- (b) Underground storage of LP Gas in mined caverns or geological formations.
- (c) Plant or equipment in which LP Gas is processed or produced, or vessels that form an integral part of that processing equipment (but does include post manufacturing storage).
- (d) Industrial gas-consuming equipment (see AS 3814/NZS 5261).
- (e) Automotive installations, as addressed in AS/NZS 1425 and AS 4983.
- (f) Refrigerating systems, as addressed in the AS/NZS 1677 series.
- (g) Land transport equipment and operations as covered—
 - (i) in Australia, by the ADG Code (but excluding references to this Standard that appear in the ADG Code) and AS 2809 Parts 1 and 3; or
 - (ii) in New Zealand, by the *NZ LPG Tankwagon Code* and the requirements of the relevant authority.
- (h) Air transport equipment and operations.
- (i) LP Gas systems for caravans, catering vehicles, marine craft or aircraft (see AS 5601/NZS 5428), or as covered in the relevant parts of the AS 2809 series.