AS/NZS 1336:2014

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Eye and face protection—Guidelines

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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS 1336.

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Australia/New Zealand Standards Committee SF-006, Eye and Face Protection, to supersede AS/NZS 1336:1997, *Recommended practices for occupational eye protection*.

The Standard provides recommended practices and guidance for the selection, care and use of eye and face protectors worn to protect eyes and faces. The hazards include flying particles and fragments, chemicals, and optical radiation generated by processes such as welding, or from solar radiation.

This edition includes recommendations on the elimination or control of eye and face hazards. It provides recommendations for the use of eye and face protectors that comply with the relevant Australian/New Zealand Standards. It contains basic details for the development of eye and face safety programs. Appendices providing guidance on selection and use of filters for protection against optical radiation generated during welding and allied operations, ultraviolet and infrared radiation have been included for reference purposes.

The objective of this revision is to incorporate the consequential changes from the revisions to AS/NZS 1337 (which is now a multipart standard), AS/NZS 1338 and AS/NZS 3957 and other referenced standards. The section providing guidance on prescription eye protectors has been removed, since AS/NZS 1337.6 now provides a product specification for this application. The section on laser eye protection has been extensively revised to accommodate the replacement of AS 2211 by AS/NZS IEC 60825 and to change the relevant laser eye protection standards from BS EN 207 and BS EN 208 to AS/NZS 1337, Parts 4 and 5.

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.

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FOREWORD

A workplace eye and face safety program should be introduced where persons are exposed to a recognized risk of injury to the eyes and/or face. Examples of areas and processes where eye and/or face hazards may exist are shown in Table 4.1. The aim of the eye and face safety program is to protect the eyes and faces of persons through elimination or control of hazards and, where necessary, the wearing of eye and face protectors.

While responsibility for the successful implementation of an eye and face safety program rests with senior management, every effort is required to secure the participation and involvement of employees or their representatives in all phases of the program. Experience has shown that programs lacking this involvement have less chance of success.

Selection of a suitable program may be assigned to safety personnel within the organization or advice may be sought from outside sources. Elements that have been found in successful eye and face safety programs include the following:

(a) An assessment of hazards.

(b) Determination of eye and face hazard areas.

(c) Elimination or confinement of eye and face hazards.

(d) Vision screening.

(e) Referral for optometrical, ophthalmological examination or both, where necessary.

(f) The universal wearing of suitable eye and face protectors for those persons at risk.

(g) Educational campaigns on eye safety.

(h) A critical examination of working conditions, particularly lighting, layout and planning of buildings and processes, form a necessary part of an eye and face safety program.

AS 1470, *Health and safety at work—Principles and practices*, deals in general terms with establishing and maintaining safe working conditions. The principles set out in that Standard apply to the particular problems of eye and face protection.

Information on suitable lighting for safe movement and industrial processes respectively is given in AS/NZS 1680.0, *Interior lighting*, Part 0: Safe movement and AS/NZS 1680.1, *Interior and workplace lighting*, Part 1: *General principles and recommendations.*

Assessment of laser hazards is dealt with in AS/NZS IEC 60825, *Safety of laser products* (series), and AS 2397, *Safe use of lasers in the building and construction industry*.

AS/NZS 2243.1, *Safety in laboratories*, Part 1: *Planning and operational aspects*, gives guidance on the assessment of eye and face hazards in laboratories.

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S E C T I O N 1 S C O P E A N D G E N E R A L

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out requirements and recommended practices for the protection of the eyes and faces of persons against hazards such as flying particles, dust, splashing materials and molten metals, harmful gases, vapours and aerosols, solar radiation and high-intensity radiation generated during operations such as welding and furnace work.

This Standard addresses hazards arising from normal occupational processes. It does not address hazards resulting from machinery malfunction and misuse.

This Standard does not include practices for the protection of eyes and faces in sport. Some of these are covered in AS/NZS 4499.3 (cricket), AS 1609 (automotive sports) and AS/NZS 4066 (racquet sports).

The selection of eye protectors appropriate to the use of particular lasers is covered. It does not cover the additional hazards associated with, and the necessary precautions for laser use (which are covered in AS/NZS IEC 60825 and AS 2397) nor those arising from work with ionizing radiation.

NOTE: Documents that contain additional information about eye protectors and their selection are listed in the Bibliography at the end of this document.

1.2 OBJECTIVE

This Standard is intended to promote the health and safety of persons exposed to occupational hazards by giving guidance on the elimination and control of eye and face hazards and the selection and use of eye protectors.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

1318 Use of colour for the marking of physical hazards and the identification of certain equipment in industry (known as the SAA Industrial Safety Colour Code)

1319 Safety signs for the occupational environment

1609 Eye protectors for motor cyclists and racing car drivers

1852 International electrotechnical vocabulary

1852.845 Part 845: Lighting

1885 Measurement of occupational health and safety performance

1885.1 Part 1: Describing and reporting occupational injuries and disease (known as the National Standard for workplace injury and disease recording)

2397 Safe use of lasers in the building and construction industry