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## PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE LABEL STOCK— PLASTICS



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
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The following interests are represented on Committee MS/44:

Australian Marketing Institute  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
Department of Defence  
Packaging Council of Australia  
Plastics Institute of Australia Incorporated  
Printing and Allied Trades Employers Federation of Australia  
Railways of Australia Committee  
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**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD**

**PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE  
LABEL STOCK—  
PLASTICS**

**AS 2776—1985**

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## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Pressure Sensitive Labels at the request of the Department of Defence which, in the first instance, required standards for all types of label stock as a basis for standards for pressure sensitive labels to be converted from this stock.

This standard is one of a series of standards being prepared for both the label stock with backing of paper, plastics, laminated foil, metal or textile and a wide variety of labels converted from this stock. Paper label stock is covered in AS 2666, Pressure Sensitive Adhesive Label Stock—Paper.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard**  
**for**  
**PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE LABEL STOCK—PLASTICS**

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE.** This standard specifies requirements for general purpose, pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) plastics label stock.

Label stock is intended for conversion to many types of plastics labels for use on a variety of clean, smooth, flat or moderately curved surfaces at temperate conditions.

NOTE: Purchasing guidelines are provided in Appendix A.

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

- AS 1580 Methods of Test for Paints and Related Materials
  - Method 213.2 Dry Hiding Power—Contrast Ratio
  - Method 483.1 Resistance to Artificial Weathering (Carbon-arc Type Instruments)
  - Method 601.1 Colour—Visual comparison
  - Method 601.2 Colour—Instrumental Measurement of Colour Difference Using the ‘Colormaster’ Differential Colorimeter
  - Method 601.3 Colour—Instrumental Measurement of Colour Difference Using the Colour Eye
  - Method 602.1 Visual Assessment of Gloss
  - Method 602.2 Specular Gloss
  - Method 602.3 Visual Assessment of Gloss (Boller)
- AS 1635 Methods of Test for Pressure Sensitive Adhesive Tapes
  - Method 3.1 Adhesion Strength
- AS 1734 Wrought Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy Flat Sheet, Coiled Sheet and Plate for General Engineering Purposes
- AS 2001 Methods of Test for Textiles
  - 2001.4.21 Colourfastness Tests—Determination of Colourfastness to Light Using an Artificial Light Source (Mercury Vapour, Tungsten Filament, Internally Phosphor-coated Lamp)
- AS 2193 Methods for Calibration and Grading of Force-measuring Systems of Testing Machines.
- BS 507 Ethanol (Denatured with 2 Percent Methanol)
- ANSI/ASTM G 53-83 Operating Light and Water Exposure Apparatus (Fluorescent UV—Condensation Type) for Exposure of Non-metallic Materials

**1.3 CLASS AND GRADE.** Label stock shall be one of two classes, viz—

Class I Permanent

Class II Removable—Able to be removed readily and cleanly

and one of two grades, viz—

Grade A Long term durability

Grade B Short term durability.

The class and grade shall be as specified by the purchaser (see Appendix A, Paragraph A3(c)).

**1.4 MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION.**

**1.4.1 General.** Label stock shall consist of plastics with a backing coat of adhesive and a protective release backing which shall be readily and completely removable.

**1.4.2 Plastics.** The plastics shall be in film form, of uniform thickness, homogeneous and free from any deleterious effects.

Details of the plastics (type and thickness) shall be as specified by the purchaser of the label stock (see Appendix A, Paragraph A3(d)).

Types of plastics commonly used, together with their characteristics are listed in Table 1.1.

**TABLE 1.1**  
**TYPES OF PLASTICS FILMS AND THEIR CHARACTERISTICS**

Polyvinyl Chloride
Calendered
Soft
Semi-hard
Hard
Cast
Soft
Hard
Laminated
Polyester
Polyethylene
Low density
High density
Spun-bonded
Polypropylene
Biaxially oriented
Co-extruded
Cellulose Acetate
Copolymers

**1.4.3 Release backing.**

**1.4.3.1 Mass per unit area.** When release backing is tested in accordance with Appendix B, the mass per unit area shall be as specified by the purchaser (see Appendix A, Paragraph A3(e)).