

Australian Standard 2259-1979

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BUOYANCY AIDS

[Title allocated by Defence Cataloguing Authority—
NSC 4220 BUOYANCY AIDS (General Requirements)]



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter



THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Association of Australian Port and Marine Authorities
Australian Water Ski Association
Australian Yachting Federation
Chief Secretary's Office, Victoria
Department of Consumer Affairs, New South Wales
Department of Defence
Department of Transport
Harbours and Marine Department, Queensland
Manufacturers of Buoyancy Aids
Maritime Services Board of New South Wales
Metal Trades Industry Association of Australia
National Safety Council of South Australia
New South Wales Police Department
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

This standard, prepared by Committee MS/15, Lifejackets, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 3 April 1979, and was published on 1 July 1979.

To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are regularly reviewed. Suggestions for improvements to published standards, addressed to the head office of the Association, are welcomed.

This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 77030.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BUOYANCY AIDS

AS 2259—1979

First published1979

**PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
STANDARDS HOUSE, 80 ARTHUR ST, NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W.**

ISBN 0 7262 1685 2

PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Lifejackets.

During the course of revising AS 1499, Buoyancy Vests, and AS 1512, Lifejackets, the committee considered that a number of other items for water safety should be included in standards.

As many of the requirements were common, the committee felt that they should be consolidated into this one standard.

Guidance on the selection and care of buoyancy aids is given in AS 2260.

This standard may require reference to the following Australian and British standards:

AS 1091 Method for the Determination of the Tear Resistance of Woven Textile Fabrics by the Wing-rip Method

AS 1192	Electroplated Coatings of Nickel and Chromium
AS 1441	Methods of Test for Coated Fabrics
AS 1789	Electroplated Coatings of Zinc on Iron and Steel
AS 1790	Electroplated Coatings of Cadmium on Iron and Steel
AS K124	PVC Film
BS 2782	Methods of Testing Plastics
BS 3424	Methods of Test for Coated Fabrics
BS 3870	Schedule of Stitches, Seams and Stitchings

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
SECTION 1. SCOPE, APPLICATION AND DEFINITIONS		APPENDICES	
1.1 Scope	3	A Method for the Determination of Buoyancy	8
1.2 Application	3	B Method for Testing Air Porosity	9
1.3 Definitions	3	C Dynamic Loading Test	10
SECTION 2. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION		D Method for Testing Resistance to Puncturing	11
2.1 General Design	4	E Stitching to be Used in Buoyancy Aid Fabrication	12
2.2 Source of Buoyancy	4	F Method for Testing Strength of Fastening Device(s)	13
2.3 Protection of Source of Buoyancy	4	G Method for Testing Resistance to Inadvertent Operation of Automatic Inflation Devices	14
2.4 Outer Covering Materials	4	H Method for Testing Strength of Attachment of Mechanical Inflation Heads	15
2.5 Webbing, Tapes and Cords	5	J Method for Exposure of Buoyancy Aids to Kerosene	15
2.6 Sewing	5	K Method for Testing State of Vulcanization	16
2.7 Fastenings and Fittings	5		
2.8 Strength of Fastening Device(s)	5		
2.9 Inflatable Chambers	5		
2.10 Resistance to Corrosion	6		
2.11 Resistance to Crushing	7		
2.12 Resistance to Heat	7		
2.13 Resistance to Petroleum Products	7		
2.14 Information to be Supplied by the Manufacturer	7		

©Copyright — STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA 1979

Users of standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all SAA publications. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing of the Standards Association of Australia.

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BUOYANCY AIDS

SECTION 1. SCOPE, APPLICATION AND DEFINITIONS

1.1 SCOPE. This standard sets out the general requirements applicable to buoyancy aids described in the following Australian standards:

- AS 1512 Lifejackets
- AS 1499 Buoyancy Vests
- AS 2260 Buoyancy Garments
- AS 2261 Rescue Buoys
- AS 2262 Float-off Buoyancy Aids

1.2 APPLICATION. Buoyancy aids, of types as defined in Clause 1.3, shall comply with the requirements of this standard in addition to the requirements of the relevant standard for the particular aid.

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

1.3.1 Buoyancy aid—a device designed to assist a person to remain afloat in water until rescue is effected.

1.3.2 Lifejacket—a buoyancy aid worn on the body which is intended to maintain the wearer in a safe floating position. It is intended for use in waters where early rescue may be anticipated.

NOTE: Attention is drawn to Navigation and Marine Acts and Regulations relating to lifejackets for commercial vessels and regulations relating to lifejackets in commercial aircraft.

1.3.3 Buoyancy vest a buoyancy aid worn on the body and intended for use in aquatic sports, to assist flotation during short-term immersion in smooth waters.

1.3.4 Buoyancy garment—a buoyancy aid, other than a lifejacket or buoyancy vest, worn on the body and intended for use when the wearer is at risk of immersion in water.

1.3.5 Rescue buoy—a buoyancy aid intended to be thrown or otherwise delivered to a person in water to assist in effecting rescue.

NOTE: Lifebuoys carried by commercial vessels are subject to Navigation and Marine Acts and Regulations.

1.3.6 Float-off buoyancy aid a buoyancy aid intended for any use in a boat and to be available to provide additional buoyancy should the boat sink.

1.3.7 Air cell—a compartment using air or air together with some other suitable material to hold apart the walls of that compartment to provide buoyancy.