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AS 2154—1978  
UDC 648.181.6:661.185

# Australian Standard 2154—1978

WITHDRAWN:  
19980701

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## CONCENTRATED LIQUID DETERGENTS FOR HOUSEHOLD HAND DISHWASHING

[Title allocated by Defence Cataloguing Authority:  
DETERGENT, GENERAL PURPOSE (CONCENTRATED LIQUID FOR  
HOUSEHOLD HAND DISHWASHING)(NSC 7930)]



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

*Incorporated by Royal Charter*



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

**Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association**

**Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations**

**CSIRO, Science Branch**

**Department of Science**

**Grocery Manufacturers of Australia Limited**

**Ministry of Consumers Affairs, Victoria**

**National Council of Women of New South Wales**

**National Health and Medical Research Council**

**Royal Australian Chemical Institute**

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This standard, prepared by Committee CS/2, Household Detergents, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 7 February 1978, and was published on 1 May 1978.

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.

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*This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 77042.*

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD SPECIFICATION

**CONCENTRATED  
LIQUID DETERGENTS  
FOR HOUSEHOLD  
HAND DISHWASHING**

**AS 2154—1978**

First published ..... 1978

14 APR 1978 PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
STANDARDS HOUSE, 80 ARTHUR ST, NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W.



ISBN 0 7262 1430 2

## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Household Detergents, under the direction of the Consumer Standards Advisory Committee, in response to a request from the Federal Government.

The committee originally intended to specify the requirements of both concentrated liquid detergents and liquid detergents in the same standard. However, public review comments indicated that this could lead to undesirable complications or possible ambiguity, consequently the committee agreed to prepare two standards.

The standard for liquid detergents has been published as AS 1999, Liquid Detergents for Household Hand Dishwashing.

In the course of its work, the committee considered the possibility of specifying performance tests for concentrated liquid detergents. However, because of the unavailability of test methods which correlate with performance under the variable conditions of actual use, the committee found it impracticable to proceed along these lines and decided that, until satisfactory methods of performance testing are developed, the only feasible course of action would be to specify a minimum surfactant level for the diluted product. The committee believes that the standard in its present form offers proper consumer protection without unduly restricting the consumer's choice of products.

This standard requires reference to the following standards:

- AS 1792 Methods for Determining the Biodegradability of Surfactants
- AS .... Methods for the Analysis of Surfactants\*
- AS .... Methods for the Analysis of Heavy Metals\*

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\*In course of preparation.

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# STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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## Australian Standard Specification for CONCENTRATED LIQUID DETERGENTS FOR HOUSEHOLD HAND DISHWASHING

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**1 SCOPE.** This specification applies to concentrated liquid detergent compositions intended to be diluted with water before use to produce a detergent for the hand washing of dishes and similar items used for domestic food preparation and consumption.

**2 DEFINITION.** For the purpose of this specification, the following definition applies:

*Concentrate*—a concentrated liquid detergent intended to be diluted with water before use.

### 3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

**3.1 Form.** The concentrate shall be a homogeneous liquid free from foreign matter and may contain added materials such as colourants, perfumes, opacifiers, viscosity-controlling agents, foam-controlling agents, solubilizers and preservatives.

**NOTE:** Colourants that have been approved by the National Health and Medical Research Council may be assumed to have a satisfactorily low toxicity for use in concentrates.

**3.2 Effect on Health.** When used in accordance with the manufacturer's directions or in normal household use, the concentrate shall not be injurious to health.

**NOTE:** It is recognized that some people may display an allergic reaction to common ingredients of concentrates. It is not intended that this clause should cover such allergic reactions. Suitable protective measures should be taken against the degreasing action of concentrates upon the skin.

**3.3 Heavy Metals.** When determined in accordance with the method described in AS ....\*, the total amount of lead, mercury, cadmium, arsenic and antimony in the concentrate, diluted ready for use in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, shall not exceed 0.003 percent by mass.

**3.4 Miscibility with Water.** The concentrate shall be readily miscible with water.

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\*In course of preparation.