

## **What's new in the Wiring Rules**



**S t a n d a r d s** Australia

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### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to indicate the changes of major importance which have been made in the new edition of the Wiring Rules (AS/NZS 3000:2000) as compared with the 10<sup>th</sup> edition (AS 3000—1991). Also an indication is given of those clauses and parts of clauses of the 1991 edition that were omitted as a result of providing a performance based joint Australian/New Zealand Wiring Rules which is as far as possible aligned with accepted international practice and contains a minimum of prescriptive 'how to do it' work practices.

Where possible the technical sense of any changes has been indicated, but where this would involve much detail, the change has been identified and the reader encouraged to compare the old and the new versions. In fact to fully understand the variations between the two documents it is essential to carry out a thorough review of both documents.

In this document the basis of reference is the clause number of the new edition with the 1991 edition clause number appearing in brackets. For the purpose of this document the terms 'former' and 'former clause' are used to refer to requirements of the 1991 edition and 'clause' or 'new clause' are used to refer to the 2000 edition. As further assistance in understanding the changes, a summary of clauses not used from the 1991 edition are listed in a separate section.

## GENERAL COMMENT

Generally, Sections 1 to 5 (inclusive) of the new joint Wiring Rules cover topics similar to the requirements contained in Sections 1 to 5 of AS 3000—1991. However there is no direct relationship between the clause numbers of the new and former sections.

The arrangement of the new joint Wiring Rules is as follows:

### TITLE

Simplified to Electrical installations (known as the Australian/New Zealand Wiring Rules).

### SECTION 1 SCOPE AND FUNDAMENTAL SAFETY PRINCIPLES

Generally covers in more detail the fundamental requirements that were included in the former Sections 0 and 1 (including definitions).

NOTE: The requirements of this new Standard apply to electrical installations that may affect livestock.

### SECTION 2 SELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR

Contains requirements relating to protective devices, switchgear and controlgear associated with an electrical installation, which were included in the former Section 2. Former requirements related to the selection, installation and mechanical protection of cables and conductors have been relocated in Section 3. Other requirements related to emergency systems (formerly Essential equipment) have been relocated in Clause 7.10 of Section 7.

### SECTION 3 SELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF WIRING SYSTEMS

Covers those items relating to wiring systems that were included in Sections 2 and 3 of AS 3000—1991. Protection requirements for wiring systems expanded.

### SECTION 4 INSTALLATION OF APPLIANCES AND ACCESSORIES

Generally covers the requirements associated with the installation of electrical equipment previously covered by Section 4 of AS 3000—1991.

### SECTION 5 EARTHING ARRANGEMENTS AND EARTHING CONDUCTORS

Contains requirements relating to earthing generally which were included in Section 5 of AS 3000—1991. Explanatory figures added.

### SECTION 6 TESTING AND VERIFICATION

This is a new Section providing extensive guidance information on visual inspections as well as expanding initial testing requirements (both mandatory and optional) from the new Section 1.