AS 2845.2—2010

Australian Standard®

Water supply—Backflow preventions devices

Part 2: Registered air gaps and registered break tanks

This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee WS-023, Backflow Prevention Devices for Water Supply. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 11 May 2010.
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The following are represented on Committee WS-023:

- ACT Planning and Land Authority
- Australian Industry Group
- Master Plumbers Association of NSW
- Master Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers New Zealand
- Plastics Industry Pipe Association of Australia
- Plumbing Products Industry Group
- Queensland Brassware Association
- South Australian Water Corporation
- Sydney Water Corporation
- Water New Zealand
- Water Services Association of Australia

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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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Part 2: Registered air gaps and registered break tanks

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee WS-023, Backflow Prevention Devices for Water Supply, to supersede AS 2845.2—1996, *Water supply—Backflow prevention devices*, Part 2: *Air gaps and break tanks*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to specify design and marking requirements for registered break tanks and air gaps used as backflow prevention devices for the protection of water distribution systems.

This Standard has been revised to meet requirements in AS/NZS 3500.1, *Plumbing and Drainage*, Part 1: *Water services*. Air gaps and break tanks should be recorded on a register of backflow protection devices by the local authority.

The term ‘informative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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FOREWORD

This Standard is designed to provide protection of water distribution systems from contamination. It should be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 2845.1, *Water supply—Backflow prevention devices*, Part 1: *Materials, design and performance requirements* and AS/NZS 3500.1, *Plumbing and drainage*, Part 1: *Water services*.

Local variations may apply and therefore the relevant regulatory authority's requirements must be complied with where requested. In particular, testable backflow prevention devices may be registered with the local authority and their testing and maintenance requirements observed.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
Water supply—Backflow preventions devices

Part 2: Registered air gaps and registered break tanks

1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies requirements for registered air gaps, including those incorporated in break tanks, used as backflow prevention devices for the protection of water supplies.

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The following are the normative documents referenced in this Standard:

NOTE: Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS
2845 Water supply—Backflow prevention devices
2845.3 Part 3: Field testing and maintenance of testable devices

AS/NZS
2845 Water supply—Backflow prevention devices
2845.1 Part 1: Materials design and performance requirements

3500 Plumbing and drainage
3500.0 Part 0: Glossary of terms
3500.1 Part 1: Water services

3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS/NZS 3500.0 and those below apply.

3.1 Air gap—Water supply system

The unobstructed vertical distance through the free atmosphere between the lowest opening of a water service pipe or fixed outlet supplying water to a fixture or receptacle and the highest possible water level of such fixture or receptacle.

3.2 Accessible

Capable of being reached for the purpose of inspection, maintenance, repair or replacement, but may first require removal of an access panel, cover, door or similar obstruction

3.3 Break tank

A storage cistern or tank incorporating an air gap, specifically designed for the purpose of backflow prevention.

3.4 Register

A record or means by which a record of information is recorded in a list or database for the purpose of testing.

3.5 Spill level

The maximum height to which water will rise, while overflowing the rim level or through channels or openings having a free discharge to the atmosphere under all conditions, when water is flowing into the fixture or receptacle at the maximum rate, under a specified water pressure with all service outlets closed.