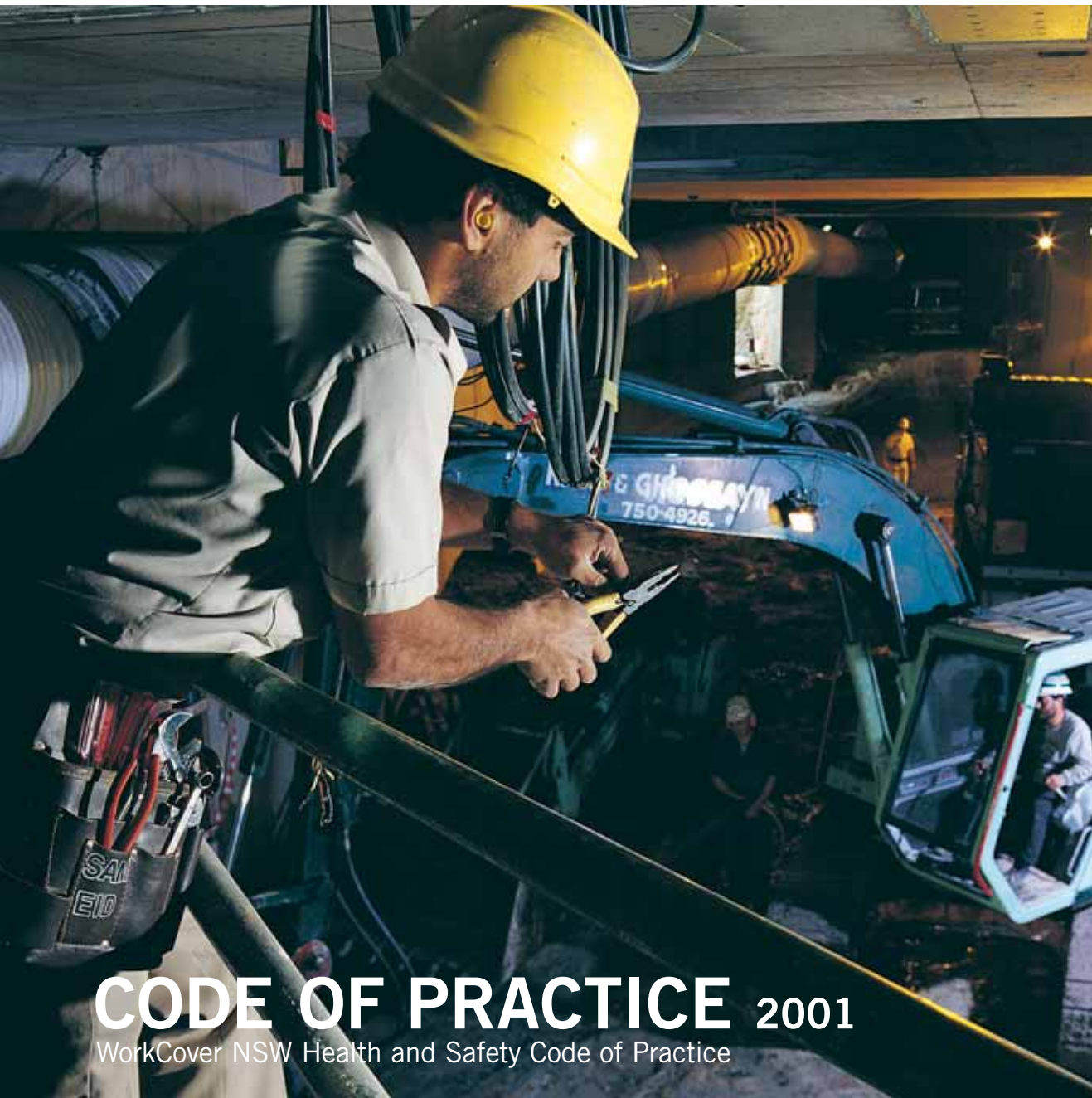


# TECHNICAL GUIDANCE



**CODE OF PRACTICE 2001**

WorkCover NSW Health and Safety Code of Practice

**Disclaimer**

This publication contains information regarding occupational health, safety, injury management or workers compensation. It includes some of your obligations under the various workers compensation and occupational health and safety legislation that WorkCover NSW administers. To ensure you comply with your legal obligations you must refer to the appropriate Acts.

This publication may refer to WorkCover NSW administered legislation that has been amended or repealed. When reading this publication you should always refer to the latest laws. Information on the latest laws can be checked at [www.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nsw.gov.au) or contact (02) 9238 0950 or 1800 463 955 (NSW country only).

## Foreword

The Special Minister of State has approved this industry Code of Practice on the recommendation of WorkCover NSW to provide practical guidance for employers and other persons to meet their obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001.

**General Manager**  
**WorkCover NSW**

## Introduction

### **What is an INDUSTRY CODE OF PRACTICE?**

An approved industry code of practice is a practical guide to achieving the standard of safety required by the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000* and *OHS Regulation 2001* for a particular area of work.

This approved industry code of practice should be followed unless there is an alternative course of action, which achieves the same or better standard of health and safety in the workplace.

An industry code of practice is approved by the Special Minister for State. It comes into effect on the day the notice of this approval is published in the NSW Government Gazette or on the day specified in the Gazette notice.

An approved industry code of practice is designed to be used in conjunction with the Act and Regulation but does not have the same legal force. A person or company cannot be prosecuted for failing to comply with an approved industry code of practice.

However, in proceedings under the Act or Regulation, failure to observe a relevant approved industry code of practice can be used as evidence that a person or company has contravened or failed to comply with the provisions of the Act or Regulation.

A WorkCover Inspector may cite an approved industry code of practice in a direction or in an improvement or prohibition notice, indicating the measures that should be taken to remedy an alleged contravention or non-compliance. Failure to comply with a requirement in an improvement or prohibition notice is an offence.

## In summary an approved INDUSTRY CODE OF PRACTICE

- gives practical guidance on how the required standard of health, safety and welfare can be achieved in an area of work;
- should be followed, unless there is an alternative course of action which achieves the same or better standard of health and safety in the workplace;
- can be used in support of the preventative enforcement provisions of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*;
- can be used to support prosecutions for failing to comply with or contravening the Act or Regulation.

### 1.1 Title

This is the *Code of Practice for Technical Guidance*.

### 1.2 Commencement

This industry Code of Practice commences on the date it is published in the NSW Government Gazette.

[This Code of Practice was published in the NSW Government Gazette No.143 on 21 September 2001.]

### 1.3 Authority

This Code of Practice is approved by the Special Minister of State as an industry code of practice under Section 43 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000*.

### 1.4 Incorporated documents

The *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000* provides for an industry code of practice to incorporate documents published by certain specified bodies.

Accordingly, the Australian Standards set out below are incorporated without modification into this industry Code of Practice:

#### 1.4.1 Boilers and pressure equipment

AS 3873-2001 Pressure equipment - Operation and maintenance.  
Publication date: 6 March 2001.

AS 2593-1995 Boilers - Unattended and limited attendance.  
Publication date: 5 July 1995.

#### 1.4.2 Laser safety

AS/NZS 2211.1 :1997 Laser safety - Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide.  
Publication date: 5 March 1997.

AS/NZS 2211.1 SUPPLEMENT 1 :1999 Laser safety - Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide - Supplement 1: Application guidelines and explanatory notes (Supplement to AS/NZS 2211.1.1997).  
Publication date: 5 March 1999.

### 1.4.3 Electrical equipment

AS 2397-1993 Safe use of lasers in the building and construction industry.  
Publication date: 14 June 1993.

AS/NZS 3012:1995 Electrical installations - Construction and demolition sites.  
Publication date: 5 June 1995.

*An earlier Code of Practice also covers the inspection and testing of electrical installations and electrical equipment on construction sites. It is titled Code of Practice: Electrical Practices for Construction Work and commenced 1 February 1992. In the event of any inconsistencies between AS/NZS 3012:1995 and the earlier Code of Practice, the earlier Code shall prevail.*

AS/NZS 3760:2001 In-service safety inspection and testing of electrical equipment.  
Publication date: 22 May 2001.

### 1.4.4 Scaffolding

AS/NZS 4576:1995 Guidelines for scaffolding.  
Publication date: 5 June 1995.

AS 1577-1993 Scaffold Planks.  
Publication date: 20 December 1993.

### 1.4.5 Lifting gear

AS 1353.1-1997 Flat synthetic-webbing slings - Part 1: Product specification.  
Publication date: 5 December 1997.

AS 1353.2-1997 Flat synthetic-webbing slings - Part 2: Care and use.  
Publication date: 5 December 1997.

AS 2741-1992 Shackles.  
Publication date: 12 October 1992.

AS 4497.1-1997 Roundslings - Synthetic fibre - Part 1: Product specification.  
Publication date: 5 October 1997.

AS 4497.2-1997 Roundslings: synthetic fibre - Part 2: Care and use.  
Publication date: 5 October 1997.

AS 1666.1-1995 Wire-rope slings - Part 1: Product specification.  
Publication date: 5 November 1995.

AS 1666.2-1995 Wire-rope slings - Part 2: Care and use.  
Publication date: 5 November 1995.

### 1.4.6 Cranes - safe use

AS 2550.1-1993 Cranes - Safe use - Part 1: General requirements.  
Publication date: 13 September 1993.

AS 2550.4-1994	Cranes - Safe use - Part 4: Tower cranes. Publication date: 20 June 1994.
AS 2550.5-1993	Cranes - Safe use - Part 5: Mobile and vehicle-loading cranes. Publication date: 13 September 1993.
AS 2550.6-1995	Cranes - Safe use - Part 6: Guided storing and retrieving appliances. Publication date: 5 December 1995.
AS 2550.7-1996	Cranes - Safe use - Part 7: Builders' hoists and associated equipment. Publication date: 5 March 1996.
AS/NZS 2550.9 :1996	Cranes - Safe use - Part 9: Vehicle hoists. Publication date: 5 August 1996.
AS 2550.10-1994	Cranes - Safe use - Part 10: Elevating work platforms. Publication date: 20 June 1994.
AS 2550.13-1997	Cranes- Safe use - Part 13: Building maintenance units. Publication Date: 5 June 1997.
AS 2550.15-1994	Cranes - Safe use - Part 15: Concrete placing equipment. Publication date: 20 June 1994.
AS 2550.16-1997	Cranes- Safe use - Part 16: Mast climbing work platforms. Publication date: 5 December 1997.
AS 2337.1-1999	Gas Cylinder test stations - Part 1: General requirements, inspections and tests - gas cylinders. Publication date: 5 April 1999.
AS 2337.2-1990	Gas Cylinder test stations - Part 2: LP gas fuel vessels for automotive use. Publication date: 7 May 1990.
AS 2337.3-1998	Gas Cylinder test stations - Part 3: Inspection and testing of fibre reinforced plastics (FRP) gas cylinders. Publication date: 5 November 1998.
AS/NZS 1891.1 :1995	Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices - Part 1: Safety belts and harnesses. Publication date: 5 March 1995.
AS/NZS 1891.2 :2001	Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices - Part 2: Horizontal lifeline and rail systems. Publication date: 20 March 2001.
AS/NZS 1891.3 :1997	Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices - Part 3: Fall arrest devices. Publication date: 5 July 1997.

<b>1.4.7 Personal protective devices</b>	AS/NZS 1891.4 :2000	Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices - Part 4: Selection, use and maintenance. Publication date: 21 August 2000.
	AS/NZS 1270:1999	Acoustics - Hearing protectors. Publication date: 5 October 1999.
	AS/NZS 1716:1994	Respiratory protective devices. Publication date: 16 May 1994.
<b>1.4.8 New lift installations</b>	AS/NZS 4431:1996	Guidelines for safe working on new lift installations in new constructions. Publication date: 5 December 1996.
<b>1.4.9 Fixed platforms, stairways and ladders</b>	AS 1657-1992	Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders - Design, construction and installation. Publication date: 16 November 1992.
<b>1.4.10 Conveyors</b>	AS 1755-2000	Conveyors - Safety Requirements. Publication date: 6 November 2000.
<b>1.4.11 Tilt up concrete constructions</b>	AS 3850.1-1990	Tilt-up concrete and precast concrete elements for use in buildings - Part 1: Safety requirements. Publication date: 12 November 1990.
	AS 3850.2-1990	Tilt-up concrete and precast concrete elements for use in buildings - Part 2: Guide to design, casting and erection of tilt-up panels. Publication date: 12 November 1990.
	AS 3850.3-1992	Tilt-up concrete and precast concrete elements for use in buildings - Part 3: Guide to the erection of precast concrete members. Publication date: 16 March 1992.
<b>1.4.12 Powered industrial trucks</b>	AS 2359.1-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 1: General requirements. Publication date: 5 May 1995.
	AS 2359.2-1985	SAA Industrial Truck Code - Part 2: Operation. Publication date: 4 October 1985.
	AS 2359.3-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 3: Counterbalanced fork-lift trucks - Stability tests. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
	AS 2359.4-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 4: Reach and straddle fork-lift trucks - Stability tests. Publication date: 5 January 1995.



AS 2359.5-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 5: Control symbols. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
AS 2359.6-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 6: Safety code. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
AS 2359.7-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 7: Terminology. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
AS 2359.8-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 8: Pallet stackers and high-lift platform trucks - Stability tests. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
AS 2359.9-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 9: High-lift rider trucks - Overhead guards - Specification and testing. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
AS 2359.10-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 10: Fork-lift trucks - Hook-on type fork arms - Vocabulary. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
AS 2359.11-1995	Powered industrial trucks - Part 11: Fork-lift trucks - Hook-on type fork arms and fork carriers - Mounting dimensions. Publication date: 5 January 1995.
AS 2359.12-1996	Powered industrial trucks - Part 12: Hazardous areas. Publication date: 5 January 1995.

- Australian Standards that use the terms “shall” or “must” or in some other manner specify that certain procedures or practices are mandatory do not apply to this Code of Practice.
- Recommendations in the Australian Standards incorporated into this Code of Practice are the recommended procedures only. They should be observed unless an alternative course of action achieves the same or a better standard of safety in the workplace.
- A copy of this industry Code of Practice and any incorporated Standards is available for public inspection at the WorkCover NSW head office 400 Kent Street, Sydney, between 8.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.
- Please contact the Standards Association of Australia for further information regarding any Standards.









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