



Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) are changing

Check out the SafeWork NSW website for current information and resources including upcoming and/or past webinars; and a series of short videos.



Workplace Exposure Standards are changing

Some work processes result in the release of dusts, gases, fumes, vapours or mists into the air. These are generally known as airborne contaminants which can be a risk to health and safety.

What are Workplace Exposure Standards?

Workplace exposure standards are limits for airborne contaminants that workers can be exposed to.

What is changing?

The exposure limits of many chemicals are changing significantly. The term workplace exposure limits (WEL) will replace workplace exposure standards (WES). This change will make clear there are limits which should not be exceeded and ensure Australia is aligned to terms being used internationally.

When are they changing?

Workplace [exposure limits](#) for airborne contaminant come into effect from 1 December 2026.

What do I need to do?

Until the 1 December 2026, Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBUs) must continue to comply with current workplace [exposure standards](#). PCBU's should review their control measures now.

Where can I get more information?

- A SafeWork NSW Webinar on Workplace Exposure Standards.
- Watch our video series
- Stay up to date to help keep your workers safe by visiting the [SafeWork NSW website](#)