

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Pressure equipment—In-service  
inspection**



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## **AS/NZS 3788:2006**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ME-001, Pressure Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 27 June 2006 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 7 July 2006.

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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 05161.*

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**RECONFIRMATION**  
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**AS/NZS 3788:2006**  
**Pressure equipment—In-service inspection**

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NOTES

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## Pressure equipment—In-service inspection

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-001, Pressure Equipment to supersede AS/NZS 3788:2001, *Pressure equipment—In-service inspection*.

The objective of the revision is to align the Standard with current equipment integrity management and assessment practices and to address some of the problems currently experienced in industry. To achieve this, the Standard has been significantly revised throughout.

While the Standard still sets out minimum inspection intervals, it now allows those intervals to be varied in response to a thorough risk-based engineering assessment. This is intended to allow the efficient use of integrity management programs by large-scale industry. As such assessments require significant resources to consider all the relevant factors, it is expected that the majority of the users of this Standard will continue using the prescribed intervals. It should be noted that the previous Clause 4.4.4.3(c), Further extended period, has been removed to ensure that variations to inspection intervals are properly assessed.

More emphasis has been placed on the responsibility to use competent bodies and personnel for all aspects of the inspection and assessment processes—a reflection of the current philosophy of occupational health and safety regulations. Guidance material is included to aid industry in assessing the competence of bodies and people for different tasks.

The Committee noted that poorly-marked or unidentifiable equipment is a significant issue facing inspectors, and has provided some guidance on dealing with such situations.

The appendices have also been revised, including a review of the normative or informative status of each. Appendix O (regarding fracture mechanics) has been significantly revised. A new appendix has been added regarding the inspection of support structures.

This Standard provides inspection requirements to assist in assuring the continued safe operation of pressure equipment. In some circumstances additional inspection may be necessary for adequate performance or safety. The material contained in this Standard may be used as an aid in the training of inspection personnel.

Users of this Standard are reminded that it has no legal authority in its own right, but acquires legal standing where adopted by government or other authority having jurisdiction, or if specified as part of a commercial contract.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables and figures are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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