

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air

Method 9.15: Determination of suspended particulate matter—Particulate metals high or low volume sampler gravimetric collection—Inductively coupled plasma (ICP) spectrometric method

AS/NZS 3580.9.15:2014

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EV-007, Methods for Examination of Air, to supersede AS 2800—1985, *Ambient air—Determination of particulate lead—High volume sampler gravimetric collection—Flame atomic absorption spectrometric method*.

Reference was made to the US Environmental Protection Agency, *Compendium of methods for the determination of inorganic compounds in ambient air, including Chapter IO-3.4 Determination of metals in ambient particulate matter using inductively coupled plasma (ICP) spectroscopy* and European Standard, EN 14902, *Ambient air quality—Standard method for the measurement of Pb, Cd, As and Ni in the Pm10 fraction of suspended particulate matter*, in preparing this Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide regulatory and testing bodies with a standard method for the determination of the concentrations of metals present in suspended particulate matter in ambient air.

FOREWORD

Both natural and anthropogenic processes and sources emit metals and their compounds into the air. Metals occur naturally in soil and rocks and can be released into air as particulate matter through weathering, mining activities and wind-blown dust. Anthropogenic sources of particulate metals include mineral processing, incineration and combustion of fuels containing metals. Some metals, upon inhalation or ingestion, can lead to a range of health effects such as cancer, neurotoxicity and reproductive toxicity.

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