



Pressure equipment—Hazard levels



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee ME-001, Pressure Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 14 November 2014. This Standard was published on 15 December 2014.

The following are represented on Committee ME-001:

- Australasian Corrosion Association
 - Australasian Institute of Engineer Surveyors
 - Australasian Institute of Engineering Inspectors
 - Australian Aluminium Council
 - Australian Building Codes Board
 - Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 - Australian Industry Group
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 - WorkCover New South Wales
 - Worksafe Victoria
 - Worksafe Division, Department of Commerce, WA
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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS 4343.

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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Australian Standard[®]

Pressure equipment—Hazard levels

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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 4343—2005.

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 revision is to include improvements suggested by users of this Standard.

Significant changes are as follows:

- (a) Adoption of the numerical method of calculating hazard level. This has been done to remove the inconsistencies that arise when calculating modified PV values and remove the unneeded conservatism in the hazard level.
- (b) Clarification of parameters used to calculate hazard levels—removal of some inconsistency between design and operating parameters.
- (c) Revision of fluid criteria to remove anomalies and remove contradictory requirements in the Standard.
- (d) Identifying the role of purchasers and owners in determining hazard levels.

In determining and allocating the hazard level values, input has been received from regulatory authorities and users, and the practices adopted in industrialized countries and those in the European Union Pressure Equipment Directive have been taken into account.

The impact of this revision is expected to be negligible, except to resolve a number of issues raised in the use of the Standard, and to facilitate its use. Specifically, the adoption of the calculation method for determining hazard level simplifies and enhances the automation of hazard level calculation.

The basis for hazard level in this Standard is the maximum amount of stored energy that could be released in 5–10 seconds and the level of exposure. For boilers and pressure vessels, calculation involves pressure and volume, while for piping, pressure and diameter are used similarly to that in EU-PED for ease of use.

Changes introduced in this edition do not require alteration to hazard level of existing pressure equipment determined in accordance with the previous edition of AS 4343.

The use (or implementation) of this Standard is subject to the requirements of the applicable regulator, for example, in some States and Territories the superseded Standard may apply until regulations are amended.

The term ‘normative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in Notes to Tables are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

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