Australian/New Zealand Standard

Occupational protective gloves

Part 6: Protective gloves for structural firefighting—Laboratory test methods and performance requirements

Superseding (in part) AS 2161.6—2003
This joint Australian/New Zealand standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF-049, Firefighters PPE. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 30 January 2014 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 21 February 2014. This standard was published on 4 April 2014.

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- Certification Interests, Australia
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This standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR2 AS/NZS 2161.6.
Occupational protective gloves

Part 6: Protective gloves for structural firefighting—Laboratory test methods and performance requirements

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-049, Firefighters—Personal Protective Equipment, to supersede (in part) AS 2161.6—2003, *Occupational protective gloves, Part 6: Protective gloves for firefighters—Laboratory test methods and performance requirements*. It is the Committee’s intention to revise requirements for Type 1 gloves in a future ensemble standard for wildland firefighting ensembles (based on ISO 16073).

This Standard is based on but not equivalent to ISO 15383:2001, *Protective gloves for firefighters—Laboratory test methods and performance requirements*, published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The variations to ISO 15383 in this Standard are in line with changes proposed at ISO technical committee deliberations but not yet finalized as part of the ISO 11999 series, to be titled, *PPE for firefighters—Test methods and requirements for PPE used by firefighters who are at risk of exposure to high levels of heat and/or flame while fighting fires occurring in structures*.

The objective of this revision is to remove specifications for Type 1 gloves, a change reflected in the new part title of the Standard and to introduce a single level of performance for structural firefighting gloves in place of the previous two level approach (Types 2 and 3). Type 1 gloves will continue to be able to comply with AS 2161.6—2003 until it is withdrawn.

Dexterity testing is a subject that will be considered in a future revision.

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 an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.
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1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies test methods and minimum requirements for protective gloves to be worn during structural firefighting and associated activities where there is a risk of heat and/or flame.

This Standard provides minimum performance requirements for protective gloves designed to protect against injury in firefighting operations.

This Standard covers the general glove design, the minimum performance levels of the materials used and the methods of test for determining these performance levels.

This Standard does not cover special gloves for use in other high risk situations such as specialized firefighting. It does not cover protection for the head, torso, arms, legs and feet or protection of the hands against other hazards, e.g. chemical, biological, radiation and electrical hazards, except for limited, accidental exposure to fireground chemicals and contaminated blood or body fluids. These aspects may be dealt with in other standards.

Selection of the appropriate system of clothing, including gloves, is dependent on carrying out an effective risk assessment that identifies the hazards to be faced, evaluates the likelihood of those hazards and provides the means of reducing or eliminating these hazards.

NOTE: Guidelines for conducting a risk assessment and some factors for consideration are included in Appendix D.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS
2001 Methods of test for textiles
2001.2.25.4 Part 2.25.4: Physical tests—Determination of the abrasion resistance of fabrics by the Martindale method—Assessment of appearance change
2001.5.4 Part 5.4: Dimensional change—Domestic washing and drying procedures for textile testing (ISO 6330:2000, MOD)

AS/NZS
2161 Occupational protective gloves
2161.1 Part 1: Selection use and maintenance
2161.3 Part 3: Protective gloves against mechanical risks
4502 Methods for evaluating clothing for protection against heat and fire
4502.2 Part 2: Evaluation of heat transmission of materials and material assemblies when exposed to flame

AS/NZS ISO
6530 Protective clothing—Protection against liquid chemicals—Test method for resistance materials to penetration by liquids
AS/NZS 2161.6:2014 Occupational protective gloves - Part 6:
Protective gloves for structural firefighting - Laboratory test
methods and performance requirements

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