

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Laboratory design and construction



AS/NZS 2982:2010

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The following are represented on Committee BD-046:

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Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Institute of Architects
Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee BD-046, Laboratory Design and Construction, to supersede AS/NZS 2982.1:1997, *Laboratory design and construction*, Part 1: *General requirements*. This Standard specifies requirements for the design and construction of laboratories based mainly on maximizing the safety of such facilities. Note that this is a single part Standard. The 'Part 1' title reference, included in the superseded standard, has now been dropped.

This Standard supplements the AS/NZS 2243 series, which refers mainly to safe working practices in laboratories. However, the AS/NZS 2243 series also includes some design and construction requirements particularly for specialized components (e.g. fume cupboards) and applications (e.g. physical containment). Reference to both AS/NZS 2982 and the AS/NZS 2243 series is recommended where laboratories are being assessed or planned.

This Standard is designed to help organizations responsible for commissioning and operating laboratories to provide a safe workplace. A laboratory must be designed, constructed, maintained and operated to minimize hazards and reduce risks to personal or public safety to an acceptable level.

While conformity to this Standard will enhance the safety of the workplace, disregard for safe working practices may negate the provisions for safety that are built into a laboratory. It is therefore essential that all personnel, including non-technical staff and visitors, be aware of and follow safe working procedures.

The Committee does not suggest that any of the provisions of this Standard are retrospective. However, users are encouraged to critically reassess their laboratories and adopt and implement those parts of this Standard that are cost effective and practicable and that can improve overall site safety.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance. Notes are also informative and for information and guidance.

CONTENTS

| | <i>Page</i> |
|--|-------------|
| FOREWORD..... | 5 |
| SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL | |
| 1.1 SCOPE | 6 |
| 1.2 DESIGN | 6 |
| 1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS | 6 |
| 1.4 DEFINITIONS | 8 |
| SECTION 2 GENERAL LABORATORY CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS | |
| 2.1 SCOPE OF SECTION | 15 |
| 2.2 PROTECTION AGAINST SUNLIGHT | 15 |
| 2.3 STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY | 15 |
| 2.4 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND FINISHES | 15 |
| 2.5 FLOORS..... | 15 |
| 2.6 WALLS | 16 |
| 2.7 CEILINGS..... | 16 |
| 2.8 VENTILATION OPENINGS | 16 |
| 2.9 BENCHES..... | 16 |
| 2.10 AISLES | 17 |
| 2.11 EGRESS AND ACCESS..... | 18 |
| 2.12 SHELVING | 18 |
| 2.13 FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND EQUIPMENT | 18 |
| 2.14 FUME CUPBOARDS AND CABINETS | 20 |
| 2.15 LUNCH ROOMS AND TOILETS | 20 |
| 2.16 WRITE UP AREAS..... | 20 |
| 2.17 RESTRICTED ACCESS | 20 |
| 2.18 WATER HEATERS | 20 |
| SECTION 3 RETICULATED SERVICES | |
| 3.1 SCOPE OF SECTION | 21 |
| 3.2 IDENTIFICATION AND COLOUR CODING | 21 |
| 3.3 SERVICE ISOLATION..... | 21 |
| 3.4 EMERGENCY SHUT OFF | 21 |
| 3.5 EXPOSED SERVICE PIPES..... | 21 |
| 3.6 PIPING IN CONCEALED SPACES | 21 |
| 3.7 RETICULATION FROM GAS CYLINDERS..... | 21 |
| 3.8 VACUUM RETICULATION | 22 |
| 3.9 HYDRAULIC SERVICES | 22 |
| SECTION 4 ELECTRICAL SERVICES | |
| 4.1 STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS..... | 24 |
| 4.2 LABORATORY POWER | 24 |
| 4.3 LABORATORY LIGHTING..... | 24 |
| SECTION 5 VENTILATION AND AIR QUALITY | |
| 5.1 GENERAL | 25 |
| 5.2 VENTILATION FOR OCCUPANTS..... | 25 |
| 5.3 NATURAL VENTILATION..... | 25 |
| 5.4 MECHANICAL VENTILATION..... | 25 |

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