

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Rigid plastic containers**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee PK/30, Plastic Containers. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 10 January 1994 and published on 18 April 1994.

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The following interests are represented on Committee PK/30:

Australian Fruit Juice Cordial Manufacturers Association  
Australian Institute of Petroleum  
Australian Institute of Packaging  
Australian Paint Manufacturers Federation  
Australian Road Transport Federation  
Council of Australian Food Technology Associations  
Department of Defence  
Grocery Manufacturers of Australia  
National Standards Commission  
Packaging Council of Australia  
Railways of Australia Committee  
The Plastic Industry Association

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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 89062.*

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First published in part as AS K163—1967.  
Revised and redesignated AS 1936—1976.  
AS 2767.1 first published 1985.  
AS 1936—1976 and AS 2767.1—1985 revised,  
amalgamated and redesignated AS 2767—1994.

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Plastic Containers under the supervision of the Multitechnics Standards Policy Board to supersede AS 1936—1976, *Plastics containers for transport of materials* and AS 2767.1—1985, *Plastics containers (up to 5 litres capacity), Part 1: Unplasticized PVC containers—Tolerances on capacity, dimensions and mass*.

Following the deregulation of sizes of containers in Australia, those Clauses of AS 2767.1 that specified sizes and tolerances became redundant and, in preparing this edition of this Standard, the committee decided to merge the contents of AS 2767.1 and AS 1936 to delete the container classifications, and to extend the range of incorporated test methods. For these reasons, and because the majority of the test methods are in outline form only, this Standard is extremely flexible in its application, and provides the basis for arriving at reliable specifications for any rigid plastic container having a capacity of up to and including 250 L or 400 kg.

This Standard is applicable to rigid plastic containers for non-dangerous goods and, with limitations, for dangerous goods. Some of the test methods in this Standard are similar or identical in principle to those specified in the ADG Code for rigid plastic containers for the transport of dangerous goods while others are supplementary. While it is required by regulations in all States and territories of Australia that containers used for the transportation of dangerous goods be tested strictly in accordance with the methods set out in the ADG Code, comply with the criteria of acceptance therein and meet certain other specific requirements, the supplementary tests provided in this Standard can be useful for the specification of such containers.

Even for non-dangerous goods it is important that minimum packaging specifications are established to ensure their safe transport and distribution. Where such goods can be expected to encounter extremes of temperature or pressure or where the value of the contained goods is high, it may be advisable to specify the use of rigid plastic containers that meet, or approximate to, dangerous goods requirements.

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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## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE .....	4
2 REFERENCED AND RELATED DOCUMENTS .....	4
3 DEFINITIONS .....	5
4 MATERIAL SELECTION AND CONTAINER CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS .....	6
5 MANUFACTURE .....	8
6 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA .....	11
APPENDICES	
A PURCHASING GUIDELINES .....	13
B DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STRESS CRACKING RESISTANCE .....	14
C DETERMINATION OF MASS CHANGE OF FILLING MATERIALS .....	16
D DETERMINATION OF BRIMFUL CAPACITY .....	18
E DETERMINATION OF INTERNAL CAPACITY .....	21
F DETERMINATION OF EXTERNAL BODY DIMENSIONS .....	24
G DETERMINATION OF FINISH DIMENSIONS .....	26
H DETERMINATION OF WALL THICKNESS .....	29
I DETERMINATION OF OPACITY .....	31
J DETERMINATION OF SURFACE ENERGY OF PLASTIC FOR ADHESION OF DECORATION .....	32
K DETERMINATION OF SURFACE FLATNESS FOR DECORATIONS .....	35
L DETERMINATION OF INK AND LABEL ADHESION TO DECORATED CONTAINERS .....	39
M DETERMINATION OF THE PRODUCT RESISTANCE OF THE DECORATION .....	41
N DETERMINATION OF ELECTROSTATIC DUST ATTRACTION .....	43
O DETERMINATION OF CLOSURES LEAKAGE .....	46
P DETERMINATION OF LEAKAGE .....	48
Q DETERMINATION OF RESISTANCE TO INTERNAL HYDRAULIC PRESSURE .....	50
R DETERMINATION OF DROP IMPACT RESISTANCE .....	51
S DETERMINATION OF HANDLE STRENGTH .....	54
T DETERMINATION OF TOP LOAD RESISTANCE .....	56
U DETERMINATION OF TOPPLING RESISTANCE .....	61
V DETERMINATION OF BASE ROCKING .....	63

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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**Australian Standard**
**Rigid plastic containers**


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**1 SCOPE** This Standard outlines test methods and certain performance requirements for rigid plastic containers manufactured by any method and having nominal capacities of up to and including 250 L or 400 kg.

It is applicable to containers for non-dangerous goods and, with limitations (see Preface), for dangerous goods.

**NOTES:**

- 1 The use of this Standard may involve exposure to hazardous materials, operations and equipment.  
This Standard does not purport to address all the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of whoever uses it to consult and establish appropriate safety and health practices, and to determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.
- 2 Appendix A provides purchasing guidelines which may be specified by the purchaser at the time of enquiry or order.

**2 REFERENCED AND RELATED DOCUMENTS** The following documents are referred to in this Standard.

**STANDARDS****AS**

1349	Bourdon tube pressure and vacuum gauges
1463	Polyethylene pipe extrusion compounds
2070	Plastics materials for food contact use
2070.1	Part 1: Polyethylene
2070.2	Part 2: Poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) compound
2070.3	Part 3: Styrene plastics materials
2070.4	Part 4: Acrylonitrile plastics materials
2070.5	Part 5: Polypropylene
2070.6	Part 6: Colourants
2070.7	Part 7: Poly(vinylidene chloride) (PVDC)
2216	Glass and rigid plastics containers for poisonous substances
2400	Packaging
2400.1	Part 1: Glossary of packaging terms
2582	Complete, filled transport packages—Methods of test
2582.2	Method 2: Conditioning for testing
2582.3	Method 3: Stacking, compression test
2582.4	Method 4: Vertical impact test by dropping
2609	Materials used for the packaging of food and beverages—Methods for the assessment of odour and taint
2906	Fuel containers—Portable—Plastics and metal