

Australian Standard™

## **The demolition of structures**



**S t a n d a r d s** Australia

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee BD-059, Demolition of Structures. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 13 July 2001 and published on 13 September 2001.

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The following interests are represented on Committee BD-059:

Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union  
Consumers Federation of Australia  
Demolition Contractors Association of Australia  
Demolition Contractors Association of New South Wales  
Demolition Contractors Association of Victoria  
Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (NSW)  
Master Builders Australia  
TAFE New South Wales  
Association of Consulting Engineers Australia  
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WorkCover New South Wales  
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## The demolition of structures

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee BD-059, Demolition of Structures, to supersede AS 2601—1991.

The objective of this Standard is to provide guidance to planners, engineers, contractors and interested parties on the planning and procedures for the demolition of a structure.

In revising the Standard, the Committee has taken into account experience gained in the application of the second edition, the relative prevalence of the types of structures now being demolished and the increasing trend towards the mechanization of demolition procedures. An increase of public awareness and worker expectations regarding safety issues, as well as increased concern regarding protection of the environment have also been taken into account as well as ecologically sustainable developments. Also addressed has been the changing face of the construction industry in terms of legislative requirements and the trend towards privatization of certifiers and the decrease in the input from regulatory authorities.

The following brief outline indicates the principal changes from the previous edition.

- 1     **Reorganization of contents** The Standard has been reorganized so as to be more performance based. The prescriptive items regarding the method for demolishing certain structures has been relocated to an informative appendix, as the committee realizes that there may be more appropriate means of achieving the safe falling of a structure, which requires the contractor to understand and apply risk management when considering a new job. The prescriptive requirements in relation to protection and the health and safety of employees and the public has been retained.
- 2     **Planning and execution** The Standard places an emphasis on the planning and execution of a demolition project. The requirements for planning and execution have been expanded upon, which has resulted in the addition of a new Section (see Section 2).
- 3     **Regulating Authorities** The Standard has taken account the varying requirements of regulating authorities in the States and Territories, and has addressed this by the removal of regulatory requirements from the main body of the Standard. An appendix has been added for guidance. The Appendix places emphasis on the demolition contractor to ensure work is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the State or Territory, as applicable. The guidance is current at the time of publication. However, it is the demolition contractor's duty to ensure that the relevant requirements of authority and qualifications are current.

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

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<b>SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL</b>	
1.1 SCOPE.....	4
1.2 REFERENCED AND RELATED DOCUMENTS.....	4
1.3 DEFINITIONS.....	6
1.4 NEW OR ALTERNATIVE METHODS .....	9
1.5 HEALTH AND SAFETY .....	9
1.6 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES .....	13
1.7 PROTECTION.....	14
1.8 PLANT AND EQUIPMENT .....	16
<b>SECTION 2 PLANNING AND EXECUTION</b>	
2.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	17
2.2 INVESTIGATION.....	17
2.3 WORK PLAN.....	18
2.4 EXPLOSIVES .....	19
2.5 EXECUTION.....	19
<b>SECTION 3 METHODS OF DEMOLITION</b>	
3.1 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS .....	20
3.2 DAMAGED OR RUINOUS BUILDINGS .....	21
3.3 REMOVAL OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.....	21
3.4 SEQUENTIAL METHODS.....	21
3.5 INDUCED COLLAPSE METHODS .....	24
3.6 GUIDANCE .....	24
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
A DEMOLITION CHECK LIST .....	25
B CONTRACTUAL CONSIDERATIONS .....	28
C CERTIFICATION AND QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL .....	31
D NOTES ON THE DEMOLITION OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE STRUCTURES .....	32
E GUIDANCE ON DEMOLITION PROCEDURES .....	37

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

### 1.1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out requirements and provides guidance to planners, owners, engineers, contractors and interested parties on the planning and procedures for the demolition of a structure.

The Standard also provides advice and guidance on a range of controlled demolition methods so that the risk —

- (a) to the health and safety of the public and site personnel and occupiers of an adjoining property;
- (b) of damage to the immediate environment; and
- (c) of damage to adjoining premises

will be minimized.

This Standard applies to the demolition of buildings and structures. Compliance with the conditions herein does not necessarily mean compliance with all of the parties' obligations.

NOTE: Some States/Territories require demolition contractors to be licensed.

### 1.2 REFERENCED AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

#### 1.2.1 Referenced documents

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

1170	Minimum design loads on structures
1170.2	Part 2: Wind loads
1270	Acoustics — Hearing protectors
1319	Safety signs for the occupational environment
1336	Recommended practice for occupational eye protection
1337	Eye protectors for industrial applications
1418	Cranes (including hoists and winches)
1418.1	Part 1: General requirements
1418.5	Part 5: Mobile and vehicle-loading cranes
1470	Health and safety and work — Principles and practices
1674	Safety in welding and allied processes
1674.1	Part 1: Fire precautions
1725	Galvanized rail-less chainwire security fences and gates
1940	The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids
2124	General conditions of contract
2187	Explosives — Storage, transport and use
2187.2	Part 2: Use of explosives