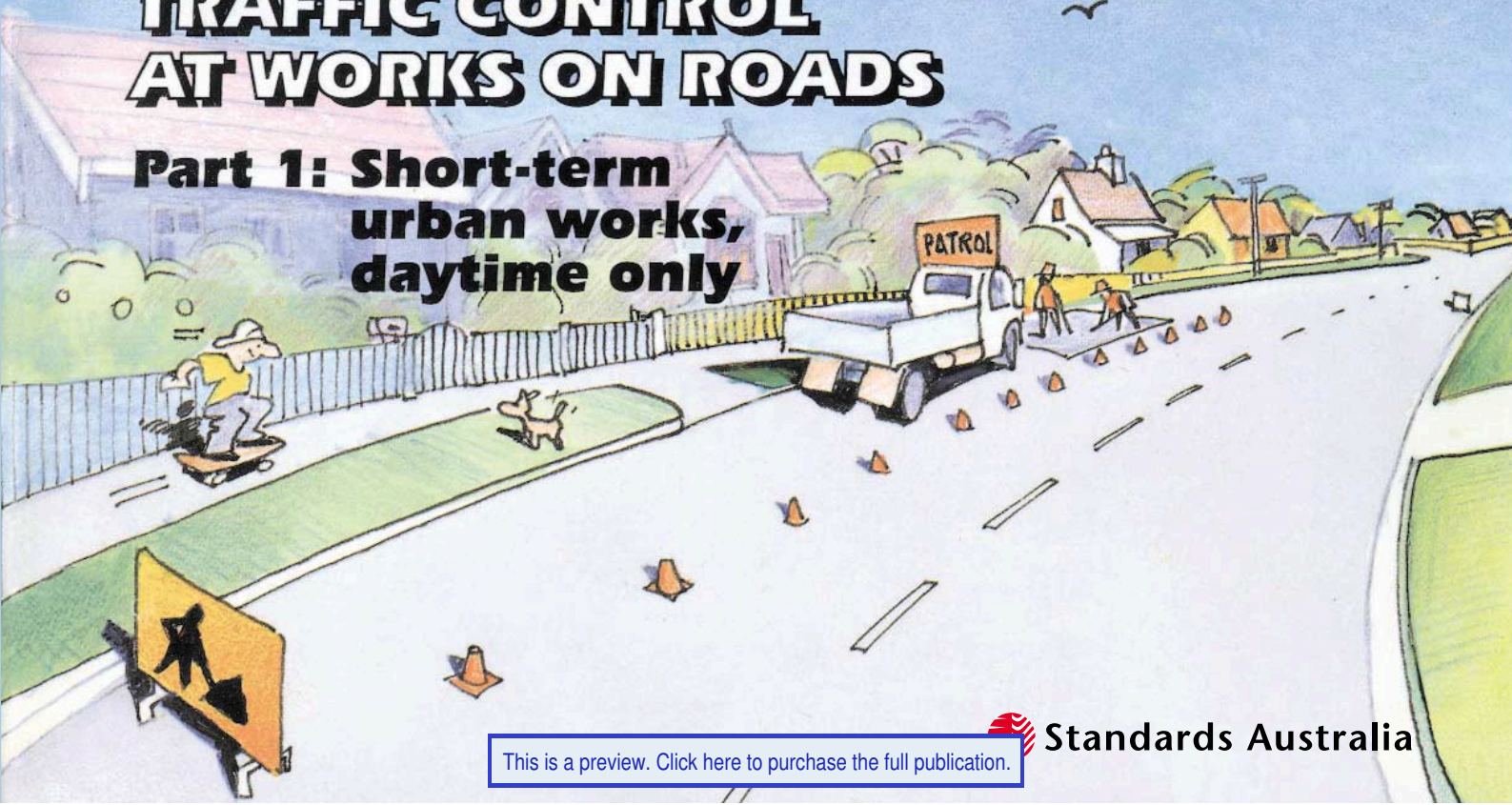


# **FIELD GUIDE** **for** **TRAFFIC CONTROL** **AT WORKS ON ROADS**

HB 81.1—2003.

**Second Edition**

**Part 1: Short-term  
urban works,  
daytime only**



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**Standards Australia**

# **FIELD GUIDE**

**for**

## **TRAFFIC CONTROL AT WORKS ON ROADS**

### **Part 1: Short-term urban works, daytime only**

**SECOND EDITION—2003.**

This edition replaces HB 81.1—1996.

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## PREFACE

This Handbook has been prepared to provide guidance for personnel engaged in short-term roadworks in urban areas. It is applicable to any works which are carried out entirely during daylight hours, and covers both mid-block and intersection works on all types of urban roads other than expressways and freeways. It is intended to be used primarily as a field reference guide.

The Handbook has been prepared to cover a specific area of roadworks signage. It contains only those provisions of AS 1742.3\*, which are considered to apply in the particular cases with which it deals, and for convenience, reproduces them in summary form. It is not intended to supersede AS 1742.3 and in any cases where there may appear to be differences in specified requirements or recommendations, or where matters could be interpreted differently from that Standard, it is intended that the Standard specification, recommendation or interpretation should prevail.

The principal change from the previous (first) edition is the inclusion of OHS requirements for maintaining a safe workplace, see Paragraph 4.

Assistance in the preparation of this Handbook was provided by representatives of the following organizations:

Austroads	Roadmarking Industry Association of Australia
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Roads and Traffic Authority of N.S.W.
Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia	Transport S.A.
Main Roads Department, Queensland	Victorian Workcover Authority
Main Roads, Western Australia	WorkCover New South Wales
National Works Officers Association	

Other Handbooks in this series are listed on the back cover.

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\* AS 1742.3, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices. Part 2: Traffic control devices for works on roads.*

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# STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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## **Handbook No. 81.1—2003**

### **Field guide for traffic control at works on roads**

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#### Part 1: Short-term urban works, daytime only

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## **1 WHERE TO USE THIS HANDBOOK**

This Handbook should be used for any works which are carried out entirely during daylight hours and no signs, devices or incomplete works are left overnight. It covers works on all roads in built-up areas including both mid-block and intersection works, but not expressways or freeways. These are covered in HB 81.7.

## **2 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

The following is a list of general requirements for supervisors to observe in all cases when carrying out works in built-up areas in daylight hours:

- (a) **Give advance warning where needed** On all roads except very low speed roads you must provide advance warning at the distances from your work area shown in the diagrams.

On very low speed roads, that is, roads on which traffic speeds are always less than 60 km/h, you will not need signs in advance of the work area, but you must have a worker (symbolic) sign at the beginning of the work area and ensure that approaching drivers can see the cones and signs at the beginning of the work area in plenty of time to be able to pass your work site safely.

- (b) **Delineate the works clearly** Make sure that traffic is clearly shown the path it must take through the works, as follows:
  - (i) Place traffic cones or bollards to show the path leading to and around the work site.
  - (ii) Use the arrangement diagrams at the back of the book as a guide to where the cones should be placed and how far apart they should be.
  - (iii) Use temporary hazard markers at the beginning of the works to show drivers to which side of the first cones or other obstructions they must go.
- (c) **Place signs where they will do their job properly** Observe the following:
  - (i) Place signs at least 1 metre clear of traffic paths wherever possible.
  - (ii) Ensure signs are mounted securely and will not blow over or around.
  - (iii) See that signs are placed in the driver's line-of-sight, and not too far off to one side.

- (iv) Ensure that signs are not obscured by parked cars, works vehicles, trees, poles or other obstructions. You may sometimes need to move them forward or back a few metres from the positions shown on the arrangement diagrams. Tolerances on the positioning of signs are given in Paragraph 10.
- (v) Do not allow the signs themselves to obscure a driver's view of other signs or other traffic on the road.
- (vi) Make sure that signs are not a hazard to workers, pedestrians or other road users.
- (vii) Ensure that signs cannot deflect vehicles into wrong or dangerous paths.
- (d) **Remove or cover up any existing permanent signs that don't apply** If there are any existing signs near the work site that could give the wrong message or confuse drivers, either remove them or cover them up for the duration of your work. Be sure to replace all permanent signs at the conclusion of the works, especially major traffic control signs such as stop and give way signs.
- (e) **Do not interfere unnecessarily with traffic flow** If you have to close off part of the roadway on a busy road, avoid peak hours and as far as possible, any other times of the day when traffic would have to start queuing to get past the work site.

If you have to stop traffic altogether for short periods, try to make it for no more than two minutes on a busy road, or five minutes on a residential street.