

AS/NZS 1067 Australian / New Zealand Standard for Sunglasses Updated

In September 2016, two Australian / New Zealand standards for Sunglasses, **AS/NZS 1067.1:2016 and AS/NZS 1067.2:2016**, have been published to supersede in part the previous version, AS/NZS 1067:2003. These standards specify the minimum requirements for sunglasses, fashion spectacles and replacement filters that are nominally afocal (plano power), except for prescription filter, to provide protection against solar radiation for general use, including road-use and driving.

The newly published version of AS/NZS 1067 is split into two parts so as to be more consistent with the structure of international ISO standard, with Part 1 focusing on scope, requirements and labeling for sunglasses and Part 2 specifying the methods for testing.

AS/NZS 1067.1:2016 Eye and face protection – sunglasses and fashion spectacles is closely aligned, but not identical, with the international standard ISO 12312-1 Eye and face protection – sunglasses for general use. One of the major differences between the AS/NZS standard and its ISO counterpart lies in UVR protection requirement where ISO standard provides protection against harmful UVR to a maximum of 380nm while AS/NZS 1067: 2016 to a higher wavelength of 400nm.

AS/NZS 1067:2:2016 Eye and face protection – sunglasses and fashion spectacles – Test methods is identical in content to its ISO equivalent, ISO 12311.2013 *Personal protective equipment—Test methods for sunglasses and related eyewear.*

These two voluntary standards will become mandatory if being enacted into legislation. The mandatory safety standard for sunglasses in Australia came into effect in 1985 and was last amended in 2005. Requirements in the existing mandatory standard are based on those in the voluntary standard AS/NZS 1067:2003. The Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) has proposed to update the mandatory standard by changing reference to the latest voluntary standard, AS/NZS 1067:2016.

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