



## **Smoke alarms using scattered light, transmitted light or ionization**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee FP-002, Fire Detection, Warning, Control and Intercom Systems. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 2 December 2014.

This Standard was published on 16 February 2015.

---

The following are represented on Committee FP-002:

- Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council
  - Australian Building Codes Board
  - Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
  - Australian Industry Group
  - Australian Institute of Building Surveyors
  - CSIRO Manufacturing & Materials Technology
  - Deafness Forum of Australia
  - Department of Human Services (Victoria)
  - Engineers Australia
  - Fire Protection Association Australia
  - National Electrical and Communications Association
  - National Fire Industry Association
  - Property Council of Australia
  - Society of Fire Safety
- 

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS 3786.

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

---

### **Keeping Standards up-to-date**

Australian Standards® are living documents that reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued.

Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments that may have been published since the Standard was published.

Detailed information about Australian Standards, drafts, amendments and new projects can be found by visiting [www.standards.org.au](http://www.standards.org.au)

Standards Australia welcomes suggestions for improvements, and encourages readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at [mail@standards.org.au](mailto:mail@standards.org.au), or write to Standards Australia, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001.

---

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

## Smoke alarms using scattered light, transmitted light or ionization

First published as AS 3786—1990.  
Third edition 2014.  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (August 2015).  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 2 (October 2018).

### **COPYRIGHT**

© Standards Australia Limited

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968.

Published by SAI Global Limited under licence from Standards Australia Limited, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 978 1 74342 991 4

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee FP-002, Fire Detection, Warning, Control and Intercom Systems, to supersede AS 3786—1993, *Smoke alarms*.

*This Standard incorporates Amendments No. 1 (August 2015) and No. 2 (October 2018). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.*

This Standard is based on ISO 12239:2010, *Smoke alarms using scattered light, transmitted light or ionization*.

The objective of this Standard is to prescribe requirements for smoke alarms intended for use, wholly or partially, as part of an automatic smoke detection system in domestic dwellings or residential accommodation buildings as required by the National Construction Code or State and Territory regulations.

The objective of this edition is to define the requirements for smoke alarms having given due consideration to requirements within International Standards, as set out by ISO, and those specific to the Australian environmental and regulatory framework.

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.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to figures and tables are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

Notes used in this Standard are of an advisory nature only and are used to give explanation or guidance to the user on recommended considerations or technical procedures, or to provide an informative cross-reference to other documents or publications. Notes to clauses in this Standard do not form a mandatory part for conformance to this Standard.

A2 |

*This Standard incorporates a Commentary on some Clauses. The Commentary directly follows the relevant clause, is designated by ‘C’ preceding the clause number and is printed in italics in a panel. The Commentary is intended to help readers understand the background to the clause but does not form part of the clause.*

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
FOREWORD.....	4
1 SCOPE.....	5
2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES .....	5
3 DEFINITIONS.....	6
4 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	7
5 TESTS.....	16
6 TEST REPORT.....	39
APPENDICES	
A PROPERTIES FOR SMOKE TUNNEL FOR RESPONSE-THRESHOLD VALUE MEASUREMENT .....	40
B TEST AEROSOL FOR RESPONSE THRESHOLD VALUE MEASUREMENTS ...	41
C SMOKE-MEASURING INSTRUMENTS.....	42
D APPARATUS FOR DAZZLING TEST.....	46
E APPARATUS FOR IMPACT TEST.....	47
F FIRE TEST ROOM .....	49
G SMOULDERING PYROLYSIS WOOD FIRE (TF2).....	51
H GLOWING SMOULDERING COTTON FIRE (TF3).....	54
I FLAMING PLASTICS (POLYURETHANE) FIRE (TF4).....	56
J FLAMING LIQUID ( <i>n</i> -HEPTANE) FIRE (TF5).....	58
K GUIDANCE ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SMOKE TUNNEL .....	60
L GUIDANCE ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MEASURING IONIZATION CHAMBER (MIC).....	62
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	64

## FOREWORD

This Standard for smoke alarms is drafted on the basis of functions that are to be provided on all smoke alarms covered by this Standard, and requirements for optional functions where included with smoke alarms.

Each optional function is set out as a separate entity, with its own set of associated requirements, in order to permit smoke alarms covered by this Standard with different combinations of functions to conform to this Standard.

A2 | Two optional sound output patterns are specified in this Standard. The options allow national regulators to choose a sound pattern conforming to ISO 8201 or ISO 7731 depending on the desired response by building occupants to an alarm condition.

An optional extended temperature-range test is included for smoke alarms installed in areas subject to a greater temperature range, such as leisure accommodation vehicles.

Additional functions are permitted, even if not specified in this Standard, provided they do not jeopardize any mandatory function required by this Standard.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard****Smoke alarms using scattered light, transmitted light or ionization****1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies requirements, test methods and functional criteria for smoke alarms that operate using scattered light, transmitted light or ionization, intended for household or similar residential applications.

This Standard also covers (but does not require) the inclusion within the smoke alarm of facilities for—

- (a) visual fault condition indication;
- (b) extended temperature-range operation;
- (c) interconnection with other similar smoke alarms or accessories; and
- (d) alarm-silence facility.

Where such facilities are included, this Standard specifies applicable requirements.

**2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES**

The following are the normative documents referenced in this Standard.

NOTE: Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

## AS

60068	Environmental testing—Tests
60068.1	Part 1: General and guidance
60068.2.1	Part 2.1: Test A: Cold
60068.2.2	Part 2.2: Test B: Dry heat
60068.2.6	Part 2.6: Test Fc: Vibration (sinusoidal)
60068.2.42	Part 2.42: Test Kc: Sulphur dioxide test for contacts and connections
60068.2.78	Part 2.78: Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state

## AS IEC

61672	Electroacoustics—Sound level meters
61672.1	Part 1: Specifications

A1

AS ISO	
7240	Fire detection and alarm systems
7240.3	Part 3: Audible alarm devices

## AS/NZS

60950	Information technology equipment—Safety
60950.1:2011	Part 1: General requirements (IEC 60950-1, Ed. 2.0 (2005), MOD)
60065:2012	Audio, video and similar electronic apparatus—Safety requirements (IEC 60065, Ed.7.2 (2011) MOD)

## ISO

209	Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys—Chemical Composition
2919	Radiological protection—Sealed radioactive sources—General requirements and classification

A1

**‘Text deleted’**