

Australian Standard™

**Plastics materials for food
contact use**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee FT/8, Plastics for Food Contact. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 11 December 1998 and published on 5 March 1999.

The following interests are represented on Committee FT/8:

Australia New Zealand Food Authority
Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology
Consumers Federation of Australia
Department of Human Services (Victoria)
Food Science Australia
Food Technology Association of Victoria
N.S.W. Health Department
Packaging Council of Australia
Pigment Ecological & Toxicological Technical Committee of Australia
Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association
Queensland Health
University of New South Wales

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Australian Standard™

Plastics materials for food contact use

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AS 2171—1992.
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee FT/8, Plastics for Food Contact. This Standard supersedes AS 2070, *Plastics materials for food contact use*, Parts 1 to 5, 7 and 8, published in 1992, Part 6, published in 1995, and AS 2171—1992, *Guide to manufacture of plastics items for food contact applications*.

This Standard is the result of a consensus among representatives of the Joint Committee to produce it as an Australian Standard.

The objective of this revision is—

- (a) to harmonize with the international Standards; US FDA Regulations and EEC Directives;
- (b) to simplify the AS 2070—1992 series on plastics materials for food contact use;
- (c) to take into account all other plastics materials used in food contact use which have not been covered in the AS 2070—1992 series; and
- (d) to recommend and to establish the references of international Standards for use in Australia.

To achieve these objectives, the Committee recommended that the revision be based on the previous edition of AS 2171. The revision is issued with the AS 2070 Standard number and main title because it covers not only guidance to the manufacture of plastics items for food contact applications but also references to performance-based Standards specifications given in the US FDA Regulations and EEC Directives, and due to the fact that the community is more familiar with the Standard number 'AS 2070' and the title 'Plastics materials for food contact use'.

This Standard is intended to apply to the manufacture of the plastics materials (resins, granules and powders) and colorants for food contact use and describes procedures to be followed during the various stages of processing by manufacturers of plastics items for food contact.

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FOREWORD

In the manufacture of plastics items for food contact use it is essential to use only raw materials that are formulated to specifications suitable for food use or that are known to be safe for contact with food. Correct segregation and identification of all raw materials received from suppliers is necessary. The manufacture of plastics items requires the control of additives, correct use of raw materials (including rework materials) and processing aids, prevention of contamination within the machinery being used, factory hygiene and the identification of finished plastics items.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Plastics materials for food contact use

1 SCOPE This Standard specifies materials and the procedures for use during the various stages of production of plastics materials, coating and printing of plastics items for food contact and subsequent use. This includes such items as packages, domestic containers, wrapping materials, utensils or any other plastics items intended for food contact applications.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

1886 Glossary of terms relating to plastics

The Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code

US FDA United States Food and Drugs Administration
21CFR Parts 170–199: US Code of Federal Regulations

EC European Commission Directives

82/711/EEC Directive laying down the basic rules necessary for testing the migration of the constituents of plastics materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

85/572/EEC Directive laying down the list of simulants to be used for testing of migration of constituents of plastics materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

89/109/EEC Directive relating to materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

90/128/EEC Directive relating to plastics materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

92/39/EEC Directive amending Directive 90/128/EEC

93/9/EEC Directive amending Directive 90/128/EEC

93/8/EEC Directive amending Directive 82/711/EEC

95/3/EC Directive amending Directive 90/128/EEC

96/11/EC Directive amending Directive 90/128/EEC

Council of Europe Resolution

AP(89)1 Resolution on the use of colourants in plastics materials coming into contact with food

NOTES:

1 All international documents can be viewed at Standards Australia offices in Sydney and Melbourne. Except for AP(89)1, the documents may be purchased from Standards Australia International Sales Centre.

2 US Code of Federal Regulations are obtainable from:

Superintendent of Documents
Government Printing office
Washington DC 20402-9371 USA

Available on Internet at <http://www.access.gpo.gov/narc/cfr/cfr-table-search.html>



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