

Australian/New Zealand Standard

Textiles—Natural and man-made fibres—Generic names

AS/NZS 2450:1994

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CS/4, Care Labelling of Textiles. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 22 August 1994 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 29 August 1994. It was published on 17 October 1994.

The following interests are represented on Committee CS/4:

Apparel Importers Association of Australia
Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organization
AWTA Textile Testing
Chemical Confederation of Australia
Commerce Commission, NZ
Curtain Industry Association of Australia
Department of Consumer Affairs, A.C.T.
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PREFACE

This Standard is issued by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS/4 on Care Labelling of Textiles to supersede AS 2450—1987 under the terms of the Active Cooperation Agreement between Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand. This Standard was prepared by the joint committee.

The first edition of AS 2450—1981 was published primarily for use in conjunction with AS 2622, *Textile products—Fibre content labelling*. Both this and the revised edition in 1987 were prepared by the committee on Care Labelling of Textiles in conjunction with the Textile Standards Board. In preparation, reference was made to ISO 2076, *Textiles—Man-made fibres—Generic names*, and to the Council Directive of the European Economic Community, dated 25 November 1983 (83/623/EEC) relating to the labelling of textile products for marketing. ISO 6938, *Textiles—Natural fibres—Generic names* was also considered. The descriptions of the fibres listed comply with those used in these documents.

Changes in the 1987 edition were the insertion of linen as an alternative to flax and the deletion of rayon.

Linen is not a generic fibre name but is used to describe yarns and fabrics made from the flax plant (*Linum usitatissimum*). It has become so accepted from an international consumer viewpoint, that the committee responsible for this Standard decided to allow its use for textile fibre content labelling of consumer goods.

The name rayon, generically used for regenerated cellulose fibres in some countries, was not included in ISO 2076 because it does not have the same meaning everywhere. The committee responsible for this Standard decided to follow the ISO Standard on this point. However, rayon, like linen, is a term familiar to consumers, hence it was decided to allow its use in labelling textiles for fibre content provided it were used in conjunction with the generic name of the relevant regenerated cellulose fibre, e.g. viscose rayon.

The Standard lists the generic names for textile fibres which may be used for technical and commercial purposes. For the chemical derivation of man-made fibres, reference should be made to ISO 2076.

This edition adds lyocell as a new generic fibre to the list of man-made fibres.

The Standard is divided into two sections. The first contains the generic names for natural fibres and the second those for man-made fibres.

In fibre content labelling of textile products, it is essential that reference be made to the existing textile labelling laws which specify the generic names to be used.

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