AS/NZS 2211.4:2002
IEC 60825-4:1997

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Safety of laser products

Part 4: Laser guards

Standards Australia

STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND
Paerewa Aotearoa

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF-019, Personal Protection Against Laser Radiation. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 30 August 2002 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 3 September 2002. It was published on 1 October 2002.

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Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Safety of laser products

Part 4: Laser guards

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-019, Personal Protection Against Laser Radiation.

This Standard is identical with and has been reproduced from IEC 60825-4:1997, *Safety of laser products*, Part 4: *Laser guards*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide requirements for laser guards, permanent and temporary, that enclose the process zone of a laser processing machine, and specifications for proprietary laser guards.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annexes to which it applies. An 'informative' annex is only for information and guidance.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

(a) Its number appears on the cover and title page while the International Standard number appears only on the cover.

(b) In the source text, 'this part of IEC 60825' should read 'this Australian/New Zealand Standard'.

(c) A full point should be substituted for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

References to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian/New Zealand Standards, as follows:

Reference to International Standard		*Australian/New Zealand Standard*	
IEC		AS/NZS	
60825	Safety of laser products	2211	Safety of laser products
60825-1	Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide	2211.1	Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide

Any international Standards not listed have not been adopted as Australian/New Zealand Standards.

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INTRODUCTION

At low levels of irradiance or radiant exposure, the selection of material and thickness for shielding against laser radiation is determined primarily by a need to provide sufficient optical attenuation. However, at higher levels, an additional consideration is the ability of the laser radiation to remove guard material – typically by melting, oxidation or ablation; processes that could lead to laser radiation penetrating a normally opaque material.

IEC 60825-1 deals with basic issues concerning laser guards, including human access, interlocking and labelling, and gives general guidance on the design of protective housings and enclosures for high-power lasers.

This part of IEC 60825 deals with protection against laser radiation only. Hazards from secondary radiation that may arise during material processing are not addressed.

Laser guards may also comply with standards for laser protective eyewear, but such compliance is not necessarily sufficient to satisfy the requirements of this standard.

Where the term “irradiance” is used, the expression “irradiance or radiant exposure, as appropriate” is implied.

AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

Safety of laser products

Part 4:

Laser guards

1 General

1.1 Scope

This part of IEC 60825 specifies the requirements for laser guards, permanent and temporary (for example for service), that enclose the process zone of a laser processing machine, and specifications for proprietary laser guards.

This standard applies to all component parts of a guard including clear (visibly transmitting) screens and viewing windows, panels, laser curtains and walls. Requirements for beam path components, beam stops and those other parts of a protective housing of a laser product which do not enclose the process zone are contained in IEC 60825-1.

In addition this part of IEC 60825 indicates:

a) how to assess and specify the protective properties of a laser guard; and

b) how to select a laser guard.

1.2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of IEC 60825. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All normative documents are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of IEC 60825 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

IEC 60825-1: 1993, *Safety of laser products – Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide*

ISO/TR12100-1: 1992, *Safety of machinery – Basic concepts, general principles for design – Part 1: Basic terminology, methodology*

ISO/TR12100-2: 1992, *Safety of machinery – Basic concepts, general principles for design – Part 2: Technical principles and specifications*

ISO 11553: 1996, *Safety of machinery – Laser processing machines – Safety requirements*

1.3 Definitions

For the purpose of this part of IEC 60825, the following definitions apply in addition to the definitions given in IEC 60825-1.

1.3.1
active guard protection time
for a given laser exposure of the front surface of an active laser guard, the minimum time, measured from the issue of an active guard termination signal, for which the active laser guard can safely prevent laser radiation accessible at its rear surface from exceeding the class 1 AEL.