



## **FACT SHEET**

# Laser Safety Standards

2018 AS/NZS 4173:2018



**Healthcare professionals will have clearer guidance under the AS/NZS 4173:2018, with the new standard stretching beyond hospitals and clinics to private medical facilities, dental centres and the cosmetic industry.**

**Here's a summary of the key differences between the old Standard and the new 2018 Australian Standard.**

## **OVERVIEW OF THE 2018 UPDATE**

The importance of staff training and a focus on safety, form the basis of the revised guidelines for the Laser Safety Standards of Australia and New Zealand.

"The use of lasers or intense light sources, such as intense pulsed light, in healthcare facilities is increasing in line with technological improvements in the sector," said CEO of Standards Australia, Dr Bronwyn Evans. "With this increased use comes a requirement for clear and updated guidance."

"This standard has been developed to place a stronger emphasis on the administrative needs and user precautions of using lasers in healthcare, such as the use of protective eyewear, safe practices, room design, and appropriate levels of staff training," said Dr Evans.

## **KEY UPDATES**

### **Laser Safety Training**

In summary, the changes recommend appropriate levels of staff training, as well as advocating for educational organisations to insist on formal medical laser training and certification.

With rapid improvements in technology and the exponential growth of the industry, the need for adequate training and certification has never been greater.

### **LEC Laser Classification**

Some of the key differences from the last edition are changes to the IEC laser classification scheme, updated descriptions and definitions owing to the updates in technology and science surrounding lasers and in particular the increasing use of intense light sources, such as IPL's which have similar operator and patient safety issues.

### **Appropriate Eyewear**

One of the key changes to the Laser Safety Standards is the recognition of the importance of appropriate eyewear.

Protective eyewear needs to comply with relevant standards and be regularly checked and cleaned.

### **Need a copy of the New Standard?**

Head to Standards Australia to purchase yours - [www.standards.org.au](http://www.standards.org.au).



## WANT HANDS ON TRAINING?

We've also updated our Laser Safety Training course to incorporate the new standards as well as training course attendees on how to effectively use laser safety equipment.

We're the trusted Laser Safety training organisation accredited throughout Australia and NZ. Our courses are practical, hands-on and are delivered by a certified training expert, David Owen. With over 2,000 hours operating theatre experience, David has a wealth of knowledge and expertise on laser safety best practices to teach you.

We offer half day, full day courses and refresher courses that can be scheduled on-site at hospitals and clinics, with weekends available to prevent downtime, disruption and revenue loss.

## COURSES ARE AVAILABLE AUSTRALIA-WIDE AND COVER:

- ✓ practical operating theatre set up and safety precautions (in theatre)
- ✓ introduction to lasers and IPL
- ✓ laser physics and human tissue interaction
- ✓ safe nursing procedures with lasers
- ✓ role of the laser operator/nurse
- ✓ laser safety officer training
- ✓ refresher laser safety training
- ✓ fire safety and airborne contaminants
- ✓ Australian standards compliance and auditing



**David Owen**  
Internationally  
Accredited  
Medical Laser  
Safety Officer

## REGISTER FOR THE NEXT COURSE ONLINE

[WWW.LASERSAFETYTRAINING.COM.AU/COURSES](http://WWW.LASERSAFETYTRAINING.COM.AU/COURSES)

### Need Laser Safety Goggles?

We have comfortable and compliant Laser Safety goggles available for purchase from us. Simply email us at [training@lasersafetytraining.com.au](mailto:training@lasersafetytraining.com.au) to request a quote.

All goggles are compatible with all common lasers and IPL machines including: CO2, Holmium, Greenlight etc. Also compatible with the following laser brands: Lumenis, Dornier, Cook, Boston and all other lasers.

\*A full copy of the Laser Safety Standards AS/NZS 4173:2018 is available for purchase from Standards Australia.

**LASER SAFETY TRAINING AND GOGGLES SUPPLIER**  
Medical Practitioners • Beauty Professionals • Laser Technicians

**Laser Safety Training**  
**Phone:** 0456 653 706  
**Email:** [training@lasersafetytraining.com.au](mailto:training@lasersafetytraining.com.au)