

Australian/New Zealand Standard

Underground marking tape

Part 1: Non-detectable tape

AS/NZS 2648.1:1995

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee PL/30, Plastics Underground Warning Strips. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 23 December 1994 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 20 December 1994. It was published on 5 April 1995.

The following interests are represented on Committee PL/30:

Association of Local Government Engineers, NZ
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Earthmovers & Road Contractors Federation
Electricity Supply Association of Australia
Electricity Supply Engineers Association of NZ
Melbourne City Council
Plastics and Chemicals Industry Association (Australia)
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee PL/30 on Plastics Underground Warning Strips to supersede AS 2648.1—1983. It is issued as a Joint Standard.

The main purpose of non-detectable marking tape is to warn, during excavation, of the presence of a service line buried further below the ground. This function is achieved when the tape is dragged up by the digging equipment, either intentionally or accidentally, leading to the identification of the service before any damage has occurred. In order for this system to be successful, the tape, when struck by digging equipment, does not tear easily and remains in the ground unnoticed; instead, it is able to be stretched and be brought to the surface. Hence, considerable importance is placed on the properties of elongation at break and tear resistance. This type of marking tape is not detectable by means of metal detectors. In order to overcome this, many authorities install a wire line along with the tape.

The objective of this Standard is to set out requirements for width, elongation at break, tear resistance, adhesion of print, colour and lettering. No material requirements have been included as it was considered that this could be unnecessarily restrictive. The Standard is intended to be a performance Standard.

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

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