

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Amendment No. 1
to
AS 4736—2006
**Biodegradable plastics—Biodegradable plastics suitable for composting and other
microbial treatment**

CORRECTION

The 2006 edition of AS 4736 is amended as follows; the amendment(s) should be inserted in the appropriate place(s).

SUMMARY: This Amendment applies to Clauses 2, 3.8 (new), 3.9 (new), 4.2, 5.3.2(c), 5.4.2.1, 7, Appendix A and Appendix B.

Published on 21 October 2009.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Clause 2

Delete ‘EN 13427, Packaging—Requirements for the use of European Standards in the field of packaging and packaging waste’, and *replace* with ‘EN 13432, Packaging—Requirements for packaging recoverable through composting and biodegradation—Test scheme and evaluation criteria for the final acceptance of packaging’.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Clause 3.8 (new)

Insert new Clause as follows:

3.8 Component

A part of a plastic product that can be separated by hand or by using simple physical means.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Clause 3.9 (new)

Insert new Clause as follows:

3.9 Constituents

The chemical materials and substances of which a plastic is composed.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Clause 4.2

Add the following Notes at the end of the Clause:

NOTES:

- 1 The user should report whether the plastic product (i.e. test material) is a single (i.e. monocomponent) product or an assembly (i.e. multicomponent) product. If it is to be tested as a single plastic material then any attached components (e.g. adhesive labels, caps/closures etc.) are to be first physically separated. If the product is a multicomponent product (e.g. nappy) then the entire assembly should be tested.
 - 2 For a plastic of equivalent form that has been accepted using a higher thickness or mass to surface area ratio, no further testing is required.
 - 3 For a plastic of equivalent form that has been accepted using a lower thickness or mass to surface area ratio, further testing is required only for the assessment of disintegration.
-

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Clause 5.3.2(c)

Delete the word ‘component’ and *replace* with ‘constituent’.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Clause 5.4.2.1

Add the following paragraph at the end of the Clause:

The ultimate aerobic biodegradability shall be determined for the whole material and for each organic constituent which is present in the material at a concentration of more than 1% (by dry mass). Constituents which are present at concentrations of less than 1% do not need to demonstrate biodegradability. However, the sum of such constituents shall not exceed 5%.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Clause 7

Delete the first paragraph and Note, and *replace* with the following:

To be designated ‘compostable’ the plastic shall meet all the criteria of the five procedures set out in Clause 5.3 to Clause 5.7. There is no requirement for the procedures to be organized in any particular way or sequence.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Appendix A

Delete Appendix A.

AMDT
No. 1
OCT
2009

Appendix B

Delete the row heading ‘Characteristics’ and *replace* with ‘Characterization’.
