

Aluminium (welding fumes) workplace exposure standard reduction

Fact sheet for industry and persons conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU)

The ACT is adopting the updated national workplace exposure standard (WES) applying to aluminium (welding fumes).

What you need to do

A PCBU must ensure that exposure to aluminium welding fumes does not exceed the WES. All reasonably practicable steps must also be taken to eliminate and minimise risk.

A PCBU may already be meeting the new WES if the Welding Processes Code of Practice is followed, the general welding fumes WES is met or aluminium welding is only done occasionally and effective control measures are in place.

PCBUs should:

- **review and update** your welding fume **controls** to keep exposure below the limit
- use the **Code of Practice: Welding Processes** for guidance
- follow the **hierarchy of controls** to manage workplace risks from welding fumes, mists, dusts, vapours and gasses
- get **expert** advice if you're unsure.

The workplace exposure standard for aluminium (welding fumes) will be reduced from 9 September 2026.

The WES will reduce from 5 mg/m³ to 1 mg/m³ (as an 8-hour time weighted average).

This brings the WES for aluminium welding fumes in line with the WES for other welding fumes.

More information

- [Workplace exposure standards, as adopted from September 2026](#)
- [Code of Practice: Welding Processes](#)
- [Safe Work Australia Information Sheet](#)
- [WorkSafe ACT](#)
- [Work Safety Group](#)
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