



Startco receives a number of phone calls and emails seeking clarification on the requirements of AS2081-2011 and whether this standard pertains to Underground only ?

The State Legislation applicable to your mine, will determine how the current AS/NZS 2018-2011 applies to your mine.

The designation / description / scope of AS2081-2011 as opposed AS2081-2002 is as follows:

Title:

The title page on the AS2081-2011 states: “**Electrical protection devices for mines and quarries**”.

The title page of the previous AS2081-2002 states: “**Electrical equipment for coal and shale mines—Electrical protection devices**”.

Preface:

Page 2, first paragraph; AS2081-2011 states:

“This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-023, **Electrical Equipment in Mines and Quarries, to supersede Parts 1 to 5 of AS/NZS 2081 (2002), Electrical equipment for coal and shale mines—Electrical protection devices**”..... acknowledging the change in name, description and scope of the standard.

Page 2, second paragraph covers intent of the standard which is:

“This Standard specifies the performance requirements for the protection devices intended for use with electrical supply networks utilizing earth fault current limitation techniques (IT networks). These protection devices include the following:

- (a) Earth fault current limiting protection devices.
- (b) Earth continuity protection devices.
- (c) Earth fault protection devices.
- (d) Earth fault lockout protection devices.
- (e) NER integrity protection devices.
- (f) Frozen contactor protection devices”

Page 2, third paragraph; identifies where the 2011 standard differs to the 2002 version, in particular point (b): states the change in scope;

“This edition of the Standard differs from the previous editions in the following significant ways:

(a) All parts have been combined into a single document.

(b) Clarification of the Scope to indicate that the Standard is applicable to both above and below ground mines and quarries.



- (c) The addition of NER integrity protection devices.
- (d) The addition of frozen contact protection devices.

And so on; points (e) through to (j).....

The 2011 standard as stated above also introduced other areas that are now included in the standards that are expected to be complied with by all mines and quarries such as NER integrity monitoring.

Clarification on the Scope; see **AS/NZS2081, Section 1: Scope and General; Clause 1.1 Scope: "..... for use in surface and underground mines and quarries, where IT supply networks are utilized,....."**

Hence, Above ground, Underground, coal, metals, quarries, depending on your State Mining Regulations / Act / Legislation, AS/NZS2081-2011 covers them ALL !

Hope this has been helpful.