

UNION WIN: NEW LIMIT IN PLACE

**LOWER LIMIT
LIVE LONGER**

The workplace exposure standard for welding fumes is now 1mg/m³.

All workplaces must comply with the lower limit by law.

The updated workplace exposure standard (WES) for welding fumes that we won last year is now in effect, as of 18 January 2024. The limit has officially been reduced from 5mg/m³ to 1mg/m³.

AMWU members have lead the way on this. After we launched our Lower Limit, Live Longer campaign, SafeWork Australia voted to lower the WES for welding fume in September 2023. And this month, Work Health and Safety Ministers agreed to the immediate reduction.

That means that means that all workplaces must comply with the new limit by law.

This is a huge union win that it is going to make working around welding safer. Welding fumes are classified as a Group 1 carcinogen, known to cause cancer, but we have the processes and safety equipment to make sure no workers inhales the dangerous fumes.

As part of the campaign, we created the National Welding Fumes Exposure Register with Maurice Blackburn Lawyers:

**Scan the QR Code to access
the Register or visit our website:**

www.amwu.org.au/weldingfumesregister



It's a voluntary, privacy-protected register for workers that provides you with record of any exposure you might have had. If you've ever welded or worked around welding, take just a few minutes to fill in the register today.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact our Helpdesk at **1300 732 698**.

Safety is union business.