

COMMITTEE ME-067

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Draft for Public Comment Technical Specification

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**BEGINNING DATE
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**Wheelchairs
Part 3: Requirements for designation of powered
wheelchairs for public transport and/or road-related
area use (including mobility scooters)**



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Draft for Public Comment Technical Specification

The committee responsible for the issue of this draft comprised representatives of organizations interested in the subject matter of the proposed Technical Specification. These organizations are listed on the inside back cover.

Comments are invited on the technical content, wording and general arrangement of the draft.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Committee ME-067—Assistive Technology for Persons with Disability

Subcommittee ME-067-01—Transport and Mobility

DRAFT

Technical Specification

Wheelchairs

Part 3: Requirements for designation of powered wheelchairs for public transport
and/or road-related area use (including mobility scooters)

(To be SA TS 3695.3:201X)

Comment on the draft is invited from people and organizations concerned with this subject. It would be appreciated if those submitting comment would follow the guidelines given on the inside front cover.

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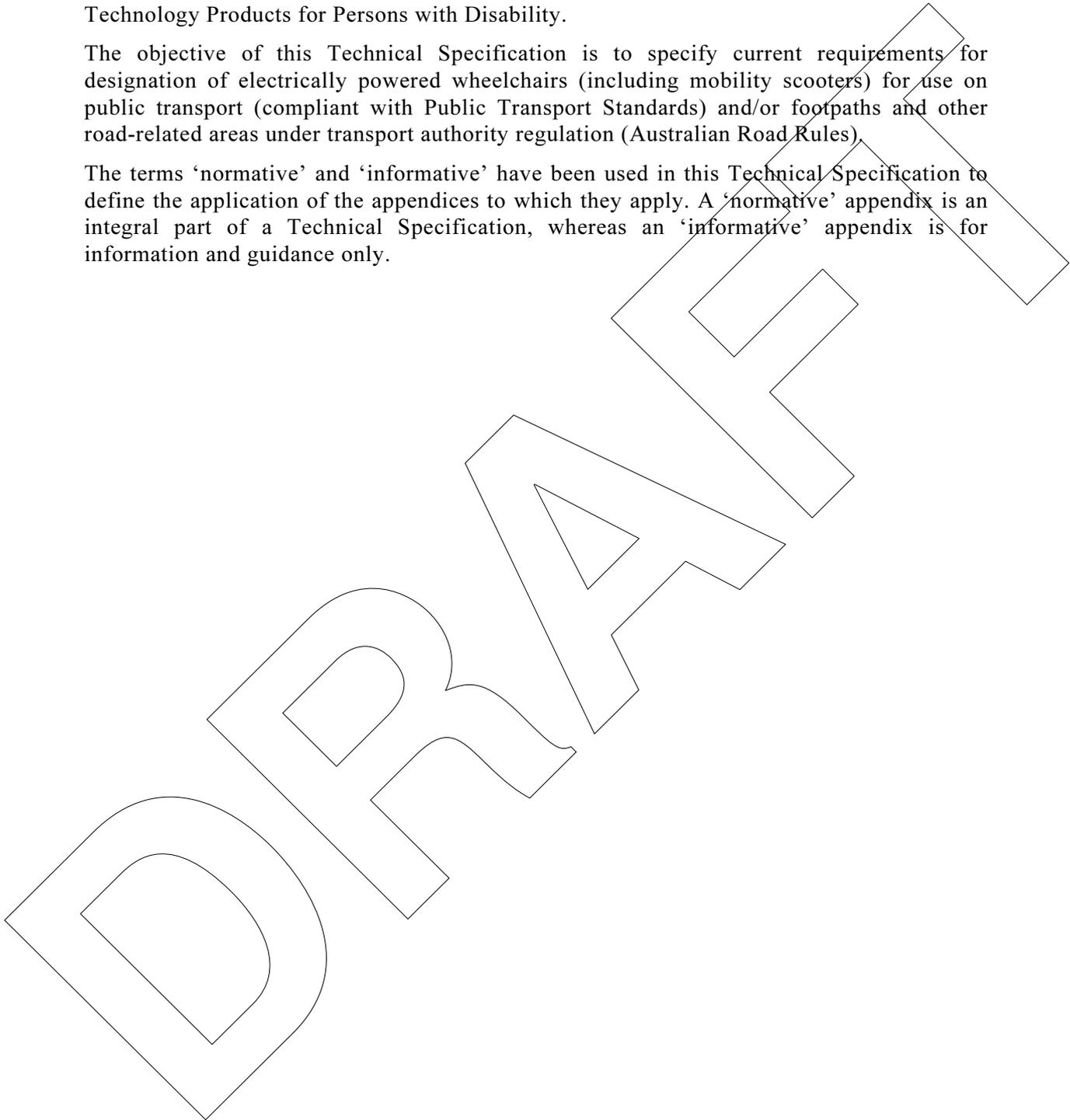
This document is a draft Technical Specification only and is liable to alteration in the light of comment received. It is not to be regarded as an Technical Specification until finally issued as such by Standards Australia.

PREFACE

This Technical Specification was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Technical Committee ME-067, Assistive Technology Products for Persons with Disability.

The objective of this Technical Specification is to specify current requirements for designation of electrically powered wheelchairs (including mobility scooters) for use on public transport (compliant with Public Transport Standards) and/or footpaths and other road-related areas under transport authority regulation (Australian Road Rules).

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Technical Specification to define the application of the appendices to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Technical Specification, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is for information and guidance only.



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DRAFT

FOREWORD

This Technical Specification specifies the minimum requirements necessary to safely use a powered wheelchair (or mobility scooter) in most Australian urban road-related areas. Typically, wheelchairs that comply with the requirements of a Class B (indoor/outdoor) wheelchair, as specified in AS/NZS 3695.2, would meet these requirements. A powered wheelchair that meets the requirements for a Blue Label is intended to be compatible with public transport conveyances that comply with the *Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002* (DSAPT) but this does not ensure access is possible in all cases.

Wheelchairs that are Class A, as specified in AS/NZS 3695.2, are unlikely to safely negotiate the variety of slopes and other obstacles encountered in Australian urban outdoor road-related areas, and are more likely (than Class B wheelchairs) to tip over when carried on public transport buses during typical turning and stopping manoeuvres. While wheelchairs that are Class C, as specified in AS/NZS 3695.2, are likely to manage all the slopes and obstacles encountered, their larger size and often increased manoeuvring requirements may hinder their use on public transport conveyances and associated infrastructure.

This Technical Specification assists operators of powered wheelchairs (and mobility scooters) to choose products suitable for road-related areas such as footpaths and, if Blue Label compliant, DSAPT compliant public transport.

This Technical Specification has been drafted assuming increasing compliance of public transport conveyances and the built environment to Australia's applicable access standards and associated regulations.

Where a powered wheelchair or mobility scooter operator has special requirements (e.g. due to a complex disability and/or need), and the intended (perhaps restricted) environment of use has high compliance with AS 1428 (series) access requirements, individual dispensations from this Technical Specification should be negotiated with the relevant regulating authority.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Technical Specification
Wheelchairs****Part 3: Requirements for designation of powered wheelchairs for public transport and/or road-related area use (including mobility scooters)****1 SCOPE**

This Technical Specification specifies current requirements for the designation of powered wheelchairs (including mobility scooters) for use on public transport (compliant with Public Transport Standards) and/or footpaths and other road-related areas under transport authority regulations (Australian Road Rules). The requirements for the designation label (blue or non-blue label) are specified.

This Technical Specification applies to powered wheelchairs and covers—

- (a) manual wheelchairs with add-on power kits used for propulsion; and
- (b) powered wheelchairs (including mobility scooters).

This Technical Specification does not apply (in total) to custom-made wheelchairs (fabricated to a prescription for a single user as defined by the *Therapeutic Goods (Medical Devices) Regulations 2002*). Where custom-made wheelchairs are constructed—

- (i) on the basis of a standardized design;
- (ii) using structural members of common technical specification; or
- (iii) with primarily dimensional variations between occupants,

this Technical Specification may be applied to the base design.

This Technical Specification is not be used to evaluate access compliance of public transport conveyances or the built environment.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referenced in this Technical Specification.

AS 1428	Design for access and mobility
AS/EN 12182	Assistive products for persons with disability, General requirements and test methods (2012)
AS/NZS 3695	Wheelchairs
3695.2	Part 2: Requirements and test methods for electrically powered wheelchairs (including mobility scooters)
3696	Wheelchairs
3696.19	Part 19: Wheeled mobility devices for use as seats in motor vehicles (ISO 7176-19:2008, MOD)

AS/NZS ISO

7176 Wheelchairs

7176.22 Part 22: Set-up procedures

7176.26 Part 26: Vocabulary

9999 Assistive products for persons with disability—Clarification and terminology

ISO

7176 Wheelchairs

7176-2 Part 2: Determination of dynamic stability of electric wheelchairs

7176-14 Part 14: Power and control systems for electric wheelchairs

The Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002

United Nations Transport of Dangerous Goods—Manual of Tests and Criteria: Section 38.3

Therapeutic Goods (Medical Division) Regulations 2002

3 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Technical Specification the definitions in AS/NZS ISO 7176.26 (except for the definition of wheelchair, which is replaced by the definition in Clause 3.5 below), ISO 7176-14, AS EN 12182 and those below apply.

3.1 Blue Label

The label identifies a device which is compatible with public transport conveyances that comply with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (DSAPT).

3.2 Maximum gross mass

Total mass of device ready for occupant use plus the maximum occupant mass specified for the wheelchair.

3.3 Mobility scooter

Wheelchairs powered by electricity, with control of direction (steering) by mechanically changing the orientation of the pivot drive wheel(s) without powered assistance.

3.4 Power add-on propulsion units for manual wheelchairs

Devices that are added to a manual wheelchair to assist the operator to move the wheelchair or to propel the wheelchair without human help (AS/NZS ISO 9999:2011, Clause 12 24 09).

3.5 Powered wheelchair

Powered, wheeled device that is used by one seated occupant who is unable to walk or has difficulty walking.

NOTES:

- 1 For the purposes of this Technical Specification, a manual wheelchair with propulsion units for manual wheelchairs fitted is a powered wheelchair.
- 2 In some jurisdictions and regulations this includes motorized mobility devices (MMD).

3.6 Public transport conveyance

A conveyance that includes any of the following, to the extent they are used to provide a public transport service:

- (a) Aircraft.
- (b) Buses or coaches.
- (c) Ferries.
- (d) Taxis.

- (e) Trains, trams, light rail, monorails, rack railways.
- (f) Any other rolling stock, vehicle or vessel classified as public transport within its jurisdiction by regulation or administrative action of any government in Australia.

3.7 Road-related area

Area under the control of a local government authority or state/territory government roads authority that is not a road (for motor vehicles) and is open to the public, and is one of the following:

- (a) An area that divides a road.
- (b) A footpath or nature strip adjacent to a road.
- (c) An area or path designated for use by cyclists or animals.
- (d) An area used by the public for driving, riding or parking vehicles (e.g. council public carpark).

NOTE: This definition excludes roads (except crossings, etc.) and privately owned infrastructure.

3.8 Unladen mass

Mass of device ready for occupant use, with maximum capacity batteries and any necessary postural control and integrated life support equipment fitted.

NOTE: Unladen mass does not include optional removable accessories (except those required for conspicuity or lighting), the occupant or luggage.

4 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Design and construction requirements, including electrical systems

The wheelchair shall be in accordance with the following clauses of AS/NZS 3695.2:

- (a) Clauses 7.3–7.7 (except Clause 7.5.2) and Clause 7.10; except that a parking brake [see Clause 7.5.1(c)] is not required if the automatic brake [see Clause 7.5.1(b)] is automatically applied, and remains applied indefinitely, when there is no power from the battery supplying the drive system.
- (b) Clause 8 (except Clauses 8.5 and 8.7).

4.2 Type class

The wheelchair shall be in accordance with, or exceed, a Class B wheelchair, as specified in Table 1 of AS/NZS 3695.2 with the following changes:

- (a) Maximum safe slope (for Blue Label requirements)—7.1° minimum (1:8).
NOTE: This maximum safe slope for Blue Label is based on DSAPT requirements.
- (b) Maximum speed—forwards horizontal—10 km/h.

4.3 Maximum speed

The maximum speed requirement of Clause 4.2 may be achieved through software adjustment that is not changeable by the operator.

On wheelchairs with a maximum speed above 5 km/h, the wheelchair control system shall have an operator-controlled switch or speed mode that limits the maximum speed to 5 km/h or less. The wheelchair shall indicate to the operator when the wheelchair is in this mode.

NOTES:

- 1 An on/off switch or button is an acceptable control to engage low speed mode.
- 2 An illuminated light is an acceptable form of visual indicator to show that low speed mode is engaged.
- 3 An electronic control that displays the chosen speed mode is acceptable.

- 4 By itself, a mark or label on an analogue dial is not an acceptable form of visual indicator to show that low speed mode is engaged.

4.4 One side of the wheelchair drops down a step transition

The wheelchair shall be in accordance with ISO 7176-2, Clause 10.5 to a minimum of 50 mm.

4.5 Wheelchair performance

4.5.1 Wheelchair dimensions and mass

The dimensions and mass of the wheelchair in accordance with AS/NZS 3695.2, or equivalent, shall not exceed the appropriate values in Table 1.

TABLE 1
WHEELCHAIR DIMENSIONAL AND MASS LIMITS

Element	General road-related use	Blue Label compliance
Overall width (max.)	850 mm (recommended)	See Clause 4.6.1
Overall height	1400 mm (min.) ¹	1500 mm (max.) ²
Overall length (max.)	1500 mm (recommended)	See Clause 4.6.1
Reversing width	No requirement	Within 2070 mm × 1540 mm area
Maximum gross mass	No requirement ³	300 kg ⁴
Maximum unladen mass	170 kg	170 kg

NOTES:

- 1 Requirement is met in an occupied wheelchair through occupant height, or provision for a flag or similar that meets height specification.
- 2 Maximum height of unoccupied wheelchair, excluding components that can be readily removed or lowered without tools.
- 3 Operators of wheelchairs with maximum gross mass greater than 300 kg should be warned that some footbridges and other infrastructure may have safe working loads that do not exceed 300 kg.
- 4 Derived from the maximum safe working load of boarding ramps/devices of 300 kg.

4.5.2 Manoeuvrability performance

4.5.2.1 General

For Blue Label compliance the overall width and length of the powered wheelchair shall also be determined by manoeuvrability performance. The powered wheelchair shall be in accordance with the manoeuvrability requirements of Clauses 4.5.2.2–4.5.2.4, while occupied.

4.5.2.2 Swept path test

The swept path performance test below is not required if the distance *S* (see Figure 1) does not exceed 1100 mm. The distance *S* is to be measured and determined by the testing laboratory. The distance from Point A, which is the widest point (including wheels and tyres) in line with the centreline of the axle of the main load-bearing wheels, to a point that is on the opposite side of the device near the front and is furthest from Point A. Steerable wheels may be in the fully lock position for this measurement, as illustrated. The measurement shall be conducted for left- and right-hand sides of the device and the larger of the two values used.

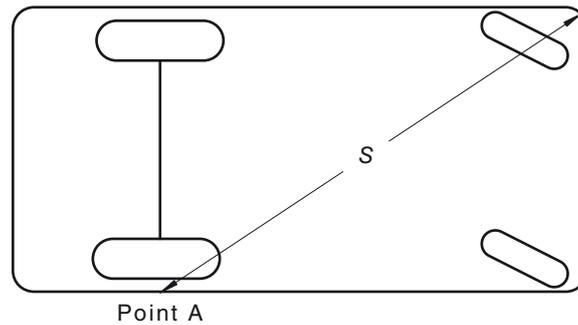


FIGURE 1 SWEPT PATH MEASUREMENT

The procedure shall be as follows:

- (a) Construct a curving access path with two concentric curving walls in accordance with Figure 2 with a minimum wall height of 800 mm and an internal width of 850 mm.
- (b) Place the wheelchair at an entrance to the corridor.
- (c) Drive the wheelchair through the entrance and around the curved access path in a manner suitable for the particular wheelchair.

The wheelchair shall pass through the swept path, arriving at the exit without distorting the test walls.

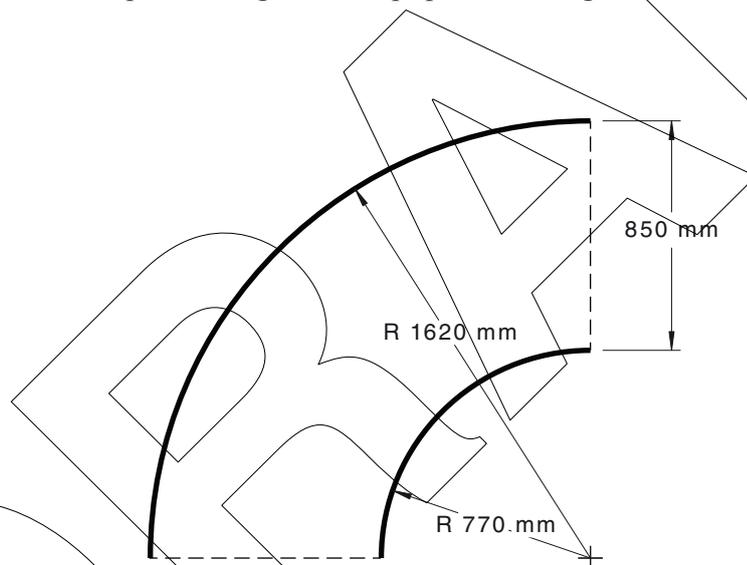


FIGURE 2 SWEPT PATH TEST CONSTRUCTION

4.5.2.3 *Allocated space test*

The allocated space performance test is not required if the distance *D* (see Figure 3) does not exceed 1200 mm. The distance *D* is to be measured and determined by the testing laboratory. It is from a point at or near the rear of the device to a point that is on the opposite side of the device at or near the front. Steerable wheels shall be in the straight-ahead position for this measurement. The measurement shall be conducted for left- and right-hand sides of the device and the larger of the two values used.

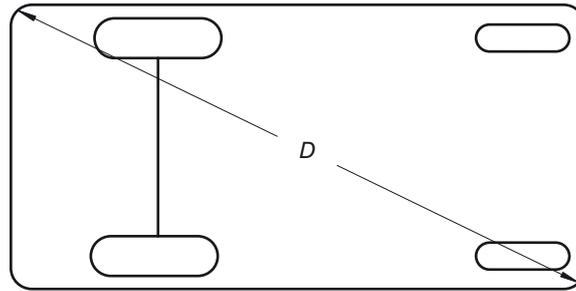


FIGURE 3 ALLOCATED SPACE MEASUREMENT

The procedure shall be as follows:

- (a) Construct walls in accordance with Figure 4 with a minimum wall height of 800 mm.
NOTE: The dotted lines should be marked on the test floor surface.
- (b) Place the wheelchair outside the test areas parallel to the walls of Area A (H-G).
- (c) Drive the wheelchair through the entrance (H-G).
NOTE: Part of the device may pass through the opening at D-J in Area B but not the whole device.
- (d) Drive the wheelchair into Area C in a manner suitable for the particular wheelchair and bring to a stop once in a position as close as practical to that identified in Figure 4.
NOTE: The tester should achieve this position without requiring assistance and while staying in a seated position in the wheelchair.
- (e) Without manually moving, modifying or adjusting the wheelchair, drive the wheelchair completely back through the entrance (H-G), Area A in a forward direction.

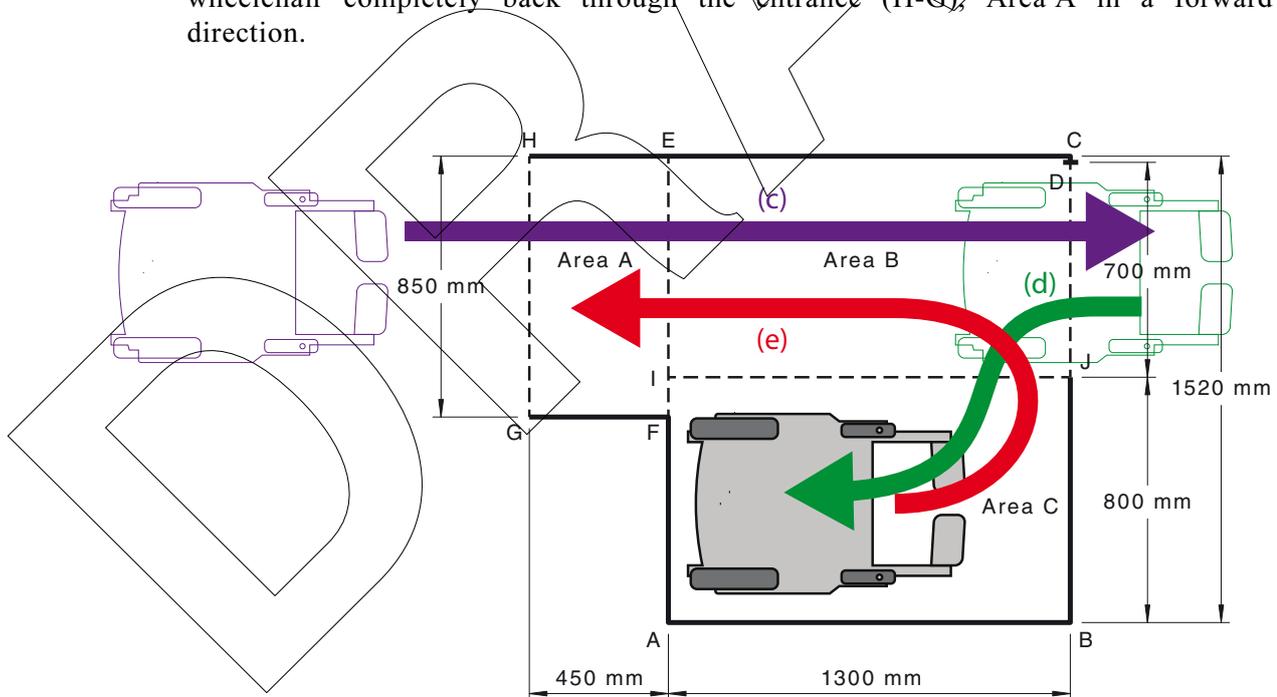


FIGURE 4 ALLOCATED SPACE TEST CONSTRUCTION

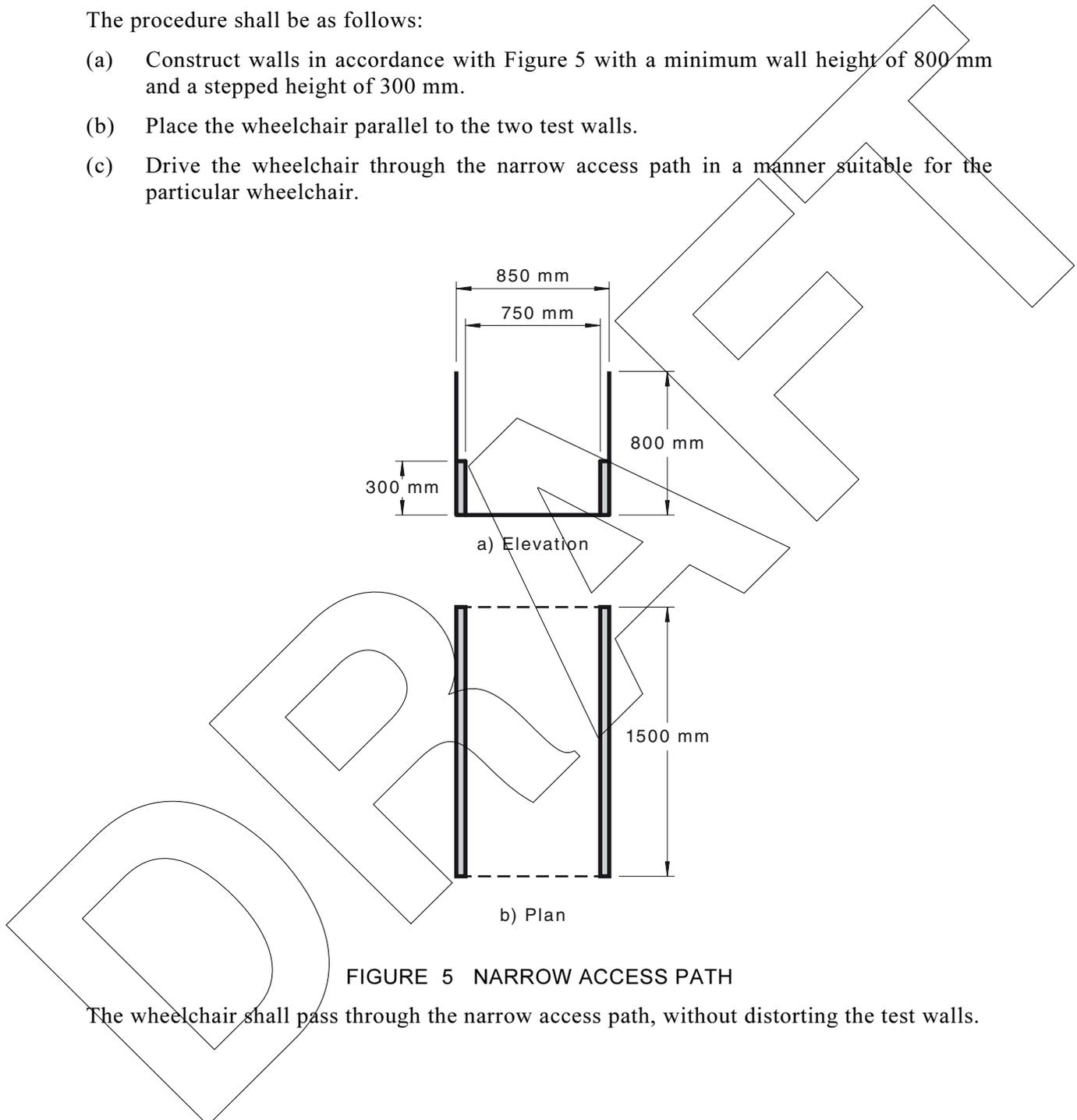
The wheelchair shall pass through the allocated space path, without distorting the test walls.

4.5.2.4 *Narrow access path test*

The narrow access path performance test for determining the wheelchair's ability to manoeuvre a narrow access path (see Figure 5) may be conducted through measured dimensions of the occupied wheelchair. The test is not required if the maximum width of the device is measured to be not more than 700 mm.

The procedure shall be as follows:

- Construct walls in accordance with Figure 5 with a minimum wall height of 800 mm and a stepped height of 300 mm.
- Place the wheelchair parallel to the two test walls.
- Drive the wheelchair through the narrow access path in a manner suitable for the particular wheelchair.



The wheelchair shall pass through the narrow access path, without distorting the test walls.

5 LABELLING AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

5.1 General

The labelling and operator documentation of a wheelchair shall be in accordance with Clauses 10.1 and 10.2 of AS/NZS 3695.2. Presale information shall comply with Clause 10.3 of AS/NZS 3695.2 [except Clause 10.3(b), (e) and (l)].

5.2 Labelling

Additional wheelchair labelling requirements are as follows:

- (a) If the wheelchair is compliant with this Technical Specification the following shall be added to the device label required under AS/NZS 3695.2 (if fitted), or other conspicuous location/label with equivalent contents and durability [see Clause 5.2(b)]:

'This device has been manufactured to comply with AS TS 3695.3.'

A non-compliant label may use the layout shown in Appendix B. However, subject to Clause 5.2(b) the non-compliant label shall not include the words 'Blue Label' or contain any blue colours.

- (b) If the device meets or exceeds all the requirements for Blue Label compliance contained in this Technical Specification, a Blue Label compliant with the specifications in Appendix B may be affixed.

If the device does not meet all Blue Label requirements then it may have a similar design of label to Appendix B but it shall not include the words 'Blue Label' or contain any blue colours.

No other labels on the device shall have the words 'Blue Label' or be of a design that may be confused with a Blue Label as described in Appendix B.

5.3 Operator information

The operator's manual shall be in accordance with Clause 10.4 of AS/NZS 3695.2 with the following additions:

- (a) Warnings about the potential hazards of using the device including dangers to the occupant and other infrastructure users in road-related areas.
- (b) A warning that the device is set to a maximum speed of no more than 10 km/h and that it would become illegal to use it on footpaths at a setting that allows a higher speed than this.
- (c) Advice that use of the device under power may not be legal in all circumstances and that the operator should be familiar with roads applicable to their location.
- (d) A recommendation that owners/operators obtain public liability insurance in case they cause an injury to another person.
- (e) Clause 10.4(k)–(z) is optional.

NOTE: *For Blue Label devices only*—The Blue Label indicates that the device may be suitable for conveyance on public passenger transport, however, the public passenger transport operator should be contacted to ensure suitability of access.

6 TEST REPORT

The test report shall include the following information:

- (a) A unique report number.
- (b) The name, address and accreditation status of the testing institution.
- (c) The date of issue of the test report.

- (d) A reference to this Australian Technical Specification, i.e. SA TS 3695.3.
- (e) The name and address of the manufacturer of the wheelchair.
- (f) A description of the wheelchair tested, including the manufacturer's or vendor's trade mark, model or type, and serial number, and any variations or accessories fitted.
- (g) A photograph of the wheelchair tested.
- (h) Manufacturer, type and model of controller and motors and the type and capacity of the batteries fitted to the wheelchair during the tests.
- (i) The source of the wheelchair tested.
- (j) Details of the set-up of the wheelchair as specified in AS/NZS ISO 7176:22, including details of how it is equipped and any adjustments made.
- (k) The ambient temperature at which each test was carried out.
- (l) Where the controller is programmable, the settings used while testing.
- (m) The results of the tests.
- (n) A statement as to whether the tested wheelchair either—
 - (i) complied with all of the applicable requirements of this Australian Technical Specification, allowing affixation of a Blue Label and a completed example of that label; or
 - (ii) complied with the applicable requirements of this Australian Technical Specification for use on road-related areas and a list of the areas for which it does not meet the Blue Label requirements; or
 - (iii) did not comply with the requirements of this Australian Technical Specification for use on road-related areas and a list of all failed requirements.

APPENDIX A

LIMITATIONS OF COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT BAGGAGE HOLDS

(Informative)

A1 TYPICAL WHEELCHAIR REQUIREMENTS FOR CARRIAGE ON COMMERCIAL PASSENGER AIRCRAFT

All powered wheelchairs should travel in an upright position. Where this is not possible, the manufacturer should provide instructions on transporting the wheelchair on aircrafts.

NOTE: Consideration needs to be given to any hazards presented by the source of power including the potential for short circuit, damage to batteries while in-situ, and potential leakage of chemicals if the wheelchair/battery is incorrectly stowed.

Batteries of powered wheelchairs should be in accordance with AS/NZS 3695.2.

Lithium-ion batteries should be in accordance with the United Nations Transport of Dangerous Goods—Manual of Tests and Criteria, Section 38.3.

The battery compartment/containment area of the powered wheelchair should have a label with the warning ‘Do not install spillable (wet) batteries’ that is highly visible to a person maintaining or changing the batteries.

NOTES:

- 1 Newer battery technologies with high power density are currently being reviewed for transport in wheelchairs and may be subject to further restrictions by carriers.
- 2 Manufacturers should consider that users may purchase and fit after-market batteries including sealed lead acid, non-spillable gel matt and lithium-ion.

All electrical control systems and chargers should be in accordance with AS/NZS 3695.2, Clause 8. In addition, there should be a reliable method to isolate all motors, actuators and controllers from the power source.

NOTE: This requirement is to prevent accidental activation of wheelchair motors or actuators while in a cargo space which could create a fire hazard. In some cases, removal of the controller or a fuse may meet this requirement.

Powered wheelchairs should be in accordance with Clause 4.1, in particular they should have a functional ‘free wheel’ mode (with appropriate indication when in operation) and an effective parking brake.

The stowage dimensions of the powered wheelchair should not exceed the relevant values for the carrying aircraft as listed in Table A.1.

TABLE A.1
MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS TABLE¹

Wheelchair stowage (maximum)	Aircraft A330, 777, 737, Embraer	Aircraft ATR 72
Height	84 cm	84 cm
Width	100 cm	70 cm
Length	125 cm	90 cm
Weight ²	120 kg	120 kg

NOTES:

- 1 The dimensions provided are for certain aircraft types. Wheelchair designers should consult with aircraft operators in Australia on the optimal dimensions for the current fleet of aircraft.
- 2 For smaller regional aircraft and many regional airports, wheelchairs are manually loaded and unloaded by baggage handlers, and lifting devices may not be available. Wheelchairs intended to be transported in these situations should be designed for loading by two people with no single item exceeding 50 kg mass.
- 3 Where a wheelchair needs to be collapsed, folded or dismantled to meet the requirements of this table (Table A.1), a laminated booklet or sheet (up to A4 size), written in English, should be available and carried by the wheelchair operator to explain the appropriate process for both preparation for stowage/transport and preparation for use.

APPENDIX B BLUE LABEL SPECIFICATIONS

(Normative)

B1 GENERAL

Devices that comply with Blue Label requirements shall have a label with the words 'Blue Label' appearing on it and shall contain blue colours (see Note 1).

Devices that do not comply with Blue Label requirements shall not have a label with the words 'Blue Label' appearing on it and shall not contain any blue colours (see Note 2).

NOTES:

- 1 Figure B1 provides an example of a wheelchair Blue Label.
- 2 Non-Blue Labels may have a similar design (see Figure B2).

B2 LABEL SIZE

The label shall be no less than 55 mm in height by 77 mm in length.

B3 LABEL COLOUR

The label shall have a white background with a blue outline (Pantone 310 C).

Apart from the requirements of Paragraph B4, no other colours shall be used.

B4 LABEL LAYOUT

The coloured outline shall be 3 mm in width. Internal corners shall be square, external corners shall be rounded.

The upper right-hand corner of the label shall be a coloured rectangle 27 mm wide by 20 mm high, the same colour as the coloured outline.

B5 TEXT ON LABEL

All text shall be black.

The label shall display the text 'BLUE LABEL' centred in the coloured (blue) rectangle in the upper right-hand corner of the label. The text shall be in capital letters in a sans serif font no less than 3 mm in height.

The label shall contain the following information in a sans serif font no less than 3 mm in height, printed on the white portion of the label:

- (a) The statement 'This device was manufactured to comply with SA TS 3695.3'.
- (b) The words 'MOTORISED MOBILITY DEVICE'.
- (c) A warning 'WARNING: TOTAL MASS WHEN OCCUPIED SHOULD NOT EXCEED 300 KG'.

The label shall contain the following details as measured in this Technical Specification, in a sans serif font no less than 2 mm in height, printed on the white portion of the label:

- (i) Make.
- (ii) Model.
- (iii) Device ID.
- (iv) Year of Production.

- (v) Maximum length.
- (vi) Maximum width.
- (vii) Unladen mass.
- (viii) Maximum safe slope.

B6 LABEL TYPE

B6.1 Label material

The label shall be in accordance with AS/NZS 3695.2, Clause 10.2(f).

B6.2 Tamper-resistance

The label shall be designed to be tamper-resistant so that it cannot be removed from the device and affixed to another wheelchair. The words 'Void if removed' should be displayed in the upper left-hand corner and the lower right-hand corner of the label. When removed or partially removed the label shall display the word 'VOID'. The text shall be in capital letters in a sans serif font no less than 2 mm in height.

B7 LABEL LOCATION

The label shall be placed on an external lower, left, rear surface of the wheelchair.

The label shall be easily read without moving or removing any component (including OEM accessories) and while the occupant is seated on the device.

The label should be positioned to avoid direct damage to, or deterioration of, the label during normal device operation. The label should not be located on components that are commonly modified or where accessories are placed.

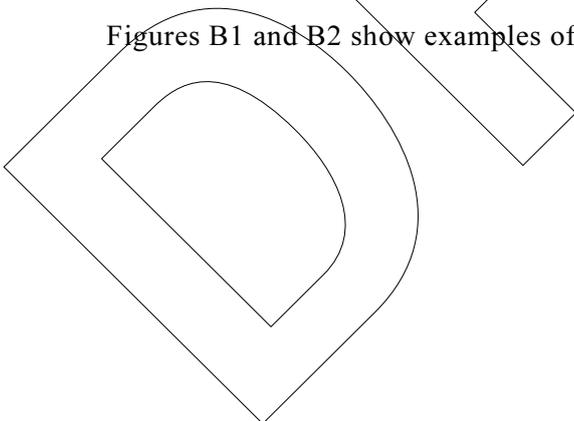
The Blue Label shall not be placed on another label (partially or fully).

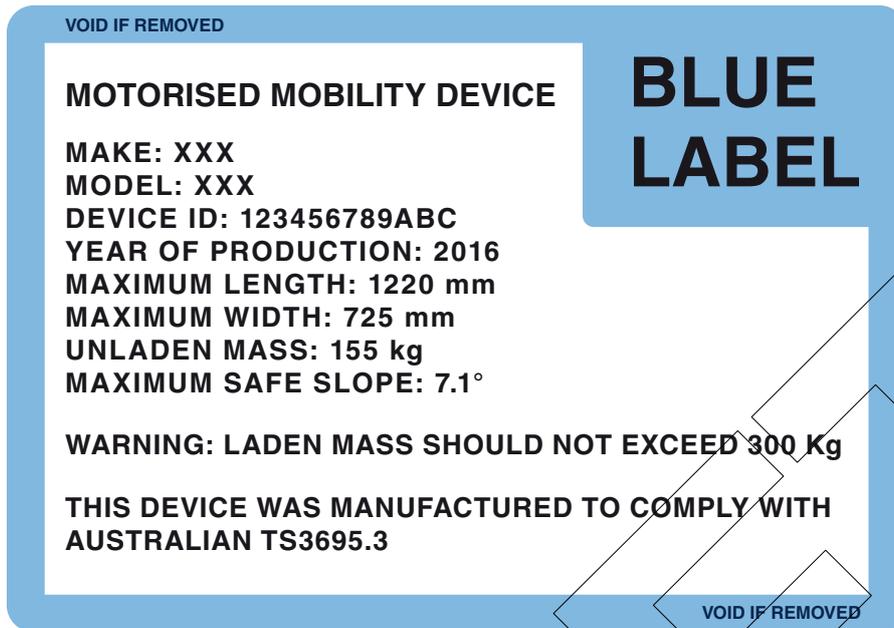
The device shall not have any other label or marking that could be confused with a Blue Label.

If the device complies with AS/NZS 3696.19 or an equivalent standard, it is recommended that the standard's compliance label and the Blue Label be placed in close proximity.

B8 EXAMPLE LABELS

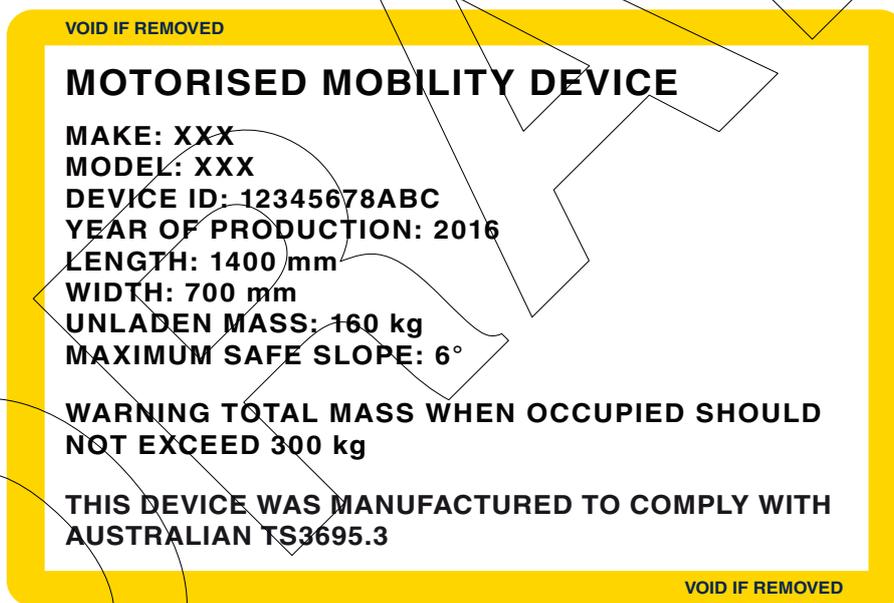
Figures B1 and B2 show examples of suitable labels.





NOTE: Figure is not to scale.

FIGURE B1 EXAMPLE OF BLUE LABEL



NOTES:

- 1 Figure is not to scale.
- 2 Yellow border is optional and recommended.

FIGURE B2 EXAMPLE OF NON-BLUE LABEL FOR OPTIONAL USE WHERE DEVICE DOES NOT MEET BLUE LABEL REQUIREMENTS

*** END OF DRAFT ***

PREPARATION OF AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS

Australian Standards are prepared by a consensus process involving representatives nominated by organizations drawn from all major interests associated with the subject. Australian Standards may be derived from existing industry Standards, from established international Standards and practices or may be developed within a Standards Australia technical committee.

During the development process, Australian Standards are made available in draft form at all sales offices and through affiliated overseas bodies in order that all interests concerned with the application of a proposed Standard are given the opportunity to submit views on the requirements to be included.

The following interests are represented on the committee responsible for this draft Australian Standard:

Assistive Technology Suppliers Australasia
Association of Consultants in Access Australia
Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association
Bus and Coach Association, New Zealand
Department for Communities and Social Inclusion, SA
Employers' Chamber of Commerce Central, New Zealand
Engineers Australia
Heavy Vehicle Industry Australia
Independent Living Centres Australia
Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme
National Disability Insurance Agency
Novita Children's Services
Occupational Therapy Australia
Physical Disability Australia
Royal Perth Hospital
Standards New Zealand
TAD Australia
The Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia
Therapeutic Goods Administration

Standards Australia

Standards Australia is an independent company, limited by guarantee, which prepares and publishes most of the voluntary technical and commercial standards used in Australia. These standards are developed through an open process of consultation and consensus, in which all interested parties are invited to participate. Through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth government, Standards Australia is recognized as Australia's peak national standards body.

Australian Standards

Australian Standards are prepared by committees of experts from industry, governments, consumers and other relevant sectors. The requirements or recommendations contained in published Standards are a consensus of the views of representative interests and also take account of comments received from other sources. They reflect the latest scientific and industry experience. Australian Standards are kept under continuous review after publication and are updated regularly to take account of changing technology.

International Involvement

Standards Australia is responsible for ensuring that the Australian viewpoint is considered in the formulation of international Standards and that the latest international experience is incorporated in national Standards. This role is vital in assisting local industry to compete in international markets. Standards Australia represents Australia at both ISO (The International Organization for Standardization) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

Electronic Standards

All Australian Standards are available in electronic editions, either downloaded individually from SAI Global, or via on-line and CD ROM subscription services. For more information phone 131 242 or visit www.saiglobal.com/shop