

AS 3547.3:2023



STANDARDS
Australia



Single-use breath alcohol testing devices



AS 3547.3:2023

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- Association of Accredited Certification Bodies
- Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Australian Industry Group
- Civil Aviation Safety Authority
- Consumers Federation of Australia
- National Association of Testing Authorities Australia
- National Measurement Institute
- NSW Police Force
- Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia
- Victoria Police
- WA Police
- Workplace Drug Testing Association

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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS-077, Breath Alcohol Testing Devices, to supersede in part AS 3547—1997, *Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use*.

The objective of this document is to specify requirements for the performance, testing and marking of single-use, disposable breath alcohol testing devices.

The AS 3547 series of standards defines the minimum technical requirements, and test methods to establish compliance, for breath alcohol testing devices.

The series covers a number of different device types that may be used across a number of different applications. The standards that currently make up AS 3547 are as follows, along with the basic scope of each document:

(a) AS 3547.1 Electronic breath alcohol testing devices for professional use

This standard specifies requirements for the performance, testing and marking of breath alcohol testing devices for uses such as, but not limited to, personal, workplace and medical screening purposes.

It covers electronic portable devices for professional use, fixed installations, and units with basic interlock functions. This relates to type 2, 3 and 4 devices from AS 3547:1997.

The basic functions of an alcohol interlock are covered, with possibility of vehicle interlocks to be specifically covered under a future AS 3547.4. Other non-Australian standards currently exist in this field.

NOTE NMIR126 applies for evidential breath analysers, used specifically for legal evidential purposes.

(b) AS 3547.2 Electronic breath alcohol testing devices for personal use

This standard specifies requirements for the performance, testing and marking of breath alcohol testing devices intended for personal use.

It covers electronic portable devices for personal use. This also relates to a type 2 device from AS 3547:1997.

(c) AS 3547.3 Single-use breath alcohol testing devices (this document)

This standard specifies requirements for the performance, testing and marking of single-use, disposable breath alcohol testing devices.

Single-use disposable breathalysers are defined as qualitative devices as they are not capable of delivering and recording a quantitative or finite test result. They are personal screening devices which provide guidance to the breath alcohol concentration of a single breath sample against a pre-set indicative measure of BrAC. While adequate accuracy and reliability is ensured through AS 3547.3, they are appropriate for use in circumstances and environments covered by legislation where important personal decisions may be made by the user following assessment of a test result. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, road safety and workplace applications.

Table A.1 of AS 3547:1997 was based on a blood to breath ratio of 2300:1. However, to be compliant with Australian legal units of measurement defined in the National Measurement Regulations, measurement units of grams of alcohol in 210 litres of breath (g/210 L) have been used in these standards.

This document is an adoption with national modifications, and has been reproduced from, NF X20-702:2014, *Breath alcohol chemical test devices — Estimation of the concentration of alcohol contained in an exhaled breath sample — Specifications and test methods*.

Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards that are identical adoptions of international normative references may be used interchangeably. Refer to the online catalogue for information on specific Standards.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendices or annexes to which they apply. A “normative” appendix or annex is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix or annex is only for information and guidance.

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