



Vehicles—Rear marker plates

Part 2: Reflective rear marker plates— Fitting requirements



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The following are represented on Committee ME-053:

- Australian Industry Group
- Australian Road Research Board
- Australian Trucking Association
- Austroads
- Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia
- Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (Australian Government)
- Heavy Vehicle Industry Association
- Municipal Works Operations Association
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Queensland University of Technology
- Society of Automotive Engineers, Australasia

Additional Interests:

- Reflective material and plates manufacturers
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Australian Standard®

Vehicles—Rear marker plates

Part 2: Reflective rear marker plates— Fitting requirements

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-053, Heavy Road Vehicles, to supersede AS 4001.2—2003, *Motor vehicles—Rear marker plates, Part 2: Fitting requirements for Class 1A, Class 1 and Class 2 reflective plates*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide vehicle operators with fitting requirements for rear marker plates that include location limits and installation methods. This revision upgrades the Australian performance requirements for reflective rear marker plates to those retroreflective performance classes used for road signage on highways within Australia. This sees the removal of Class 2 retroreflective materials and AS 4001.3. Increasing the minimum retroreflective sheeting performance level increases the visibility distance of the rear marker plates when mounted on vehicles, thus increasing the safety of the vehicle itself and other road users.

This Standard is Part 2 of AS 4001, *Vehicles—Rear marker plates*, which is published in Parts as follows:

AS

4001.1 Part 1: Reflective rear marker plates—Manufacturing and classification requirements

4001.2 Part 2: Reflective rear marker plates—Fitting requirements (this Standard)

During the 1980s, the then Australian Federal Office of Road Safety initiated a program to improve the night time visibility of vehicles over 12 t Gross Vehicle Mass. Subsequently, rear marker plates were introduced in Australian Design Rules, and as outlined in the 2003 edition of this Standard, could be manufactured from retroreflective materials of Class 2 (now Class 100), Class 1 (now Class 400) or Class 1A performance classes.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Vehicles—Rear marker plates

Part 2: Reflective rear marker plates—Fitting requirements

1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies fitting requirements for rear marker plates complying with AS 4001.1. It includes location limits and installation methods.

2 APPLICATION

This Standard provides location limits and installation methods for reflective rear marker plates to be installed on vehicles including the following categories*:

- (a) Heavy omnibuses (ME)[†] with a GVM exceeding 12 t, except 'route service omnibuses'[‡] used solely in urban areas.
- (b) Heavy goods vehicles (NC)[†].
- (c) Heavy trailers (TD)[†].

NOTE: In some jurisdictions it is not permitted to fit categories of rear marker plates containing the text '**DO NOT OVERTAKE TURNING VEHICLE**' to vehicles with an overall length less than 7.5 m, other than to—

- (a) the trailer or semitrailer of an articulated combination, where the total articulated vehicle length will exceed 7.5 m when coupled; and
- (b) prime movers.

Rear marker plates, other than legend plates, are optional on other vehicle categories.

3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
4001	Vehicles—Rear marker plates
4001.1	Part 1: Reflective rear marker plates—Classifications and manufacturing requirements
AS/NZS	
1906	Retroreflective materials and devices for road traffic control purposes
1906.1	Part 1: Retroreflective materials
1906.2	Part 2: Retroreflective devices (non-pavement application)
ADR [§]	Australian Design Rules: national standards for road vehicles determined under the Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989 of the Commonwealth
UN R70	United Nations Regulation No. 70 - Rev.1 – Uniform Provisions concerning the approval of rear marking plates for heavy and long vehicles

* At the time of publication of this Standard, the specified vehicle categories aligned with the then current Australian Design Rules for Motor Vehicles and Trailers (ADR) requirements.

[†] ME, NC and TD are vehicle categories defined in the ADRs.

[‡] 'Route service omnibuses' is defined in the ADRs.

[§] This reference refers to the then current ADR definitions.

4 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

4.1 Backing material

Either—

- (a) a rigid plate, the surface of which has been prepared prior to the application of the retroreflective material; or
- (b) a properly cleaned surface of a motor vehicle or trailer.

4.2 GVM (Gross vehicle mass)

The maximum loaded mass of the vehicle, either—

- (a) specified by the manufacturer; or
- (b) if there is no specification by the manufacturer or the specification is not appropriate because the vehicle has been modified—certified by the vehicle registration authority.

NOTE: The manufacturer is the name of the person or company to whom the identification plate approval certificate is issued.

4.3 Plate manufacturer

The manufacturer of the rear marker plate.

4.4 Rear marker plate

A marking intended to improve the visibility of the rear of the vehicle.

NOTE: Also known as 'plate'.

4.5 Retroreflective material

A material which reflects an incident light beam directly back to its source in a narrow cone.

4.6 Retroreflective material manufacturer

The manufacturer of the background retroreflective material and/or the supplier of the screen process ink.

4.7 Shall

Indicates that a statement is mandatory.

4.8 Should

Indicates a recommendation.

5 CATEGORIES

5.1 Description

The classification and manufacturing requirements for rear marker plates are set out in AS 4001.1. The category plates from AS 4001.1 are illustrated in Figures 5.1 and 5.2.

In describing the various categories of rear marker plates in this Standard, a code based on the overall width and height of a plate has been adopted (e.g. Category 31 for a 300 mm wide × 100 mm high plate, Category 615 for a 600 mm wide × 150 mm high plate). Where appropriate, this number is followed by a letter L to indicate a legend-only plate (i.e. the display of 'DO NOT OVERTAKE TURNING VEHICLE'), or a letter A, B or C to indicate the inclination of the colour bands on a strip plate (refer to AS 4001.1, Figures 5.4 and 5.5).