

AS/NZS 3856.1:1998

Reconfirmed 2016

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Hoists and ramps for people with
disabilities—Vehicle-mounted**

Part 1: Product requirements

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ME/67, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 7 August 1998 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 24 August 1998. It was published on 5 October 1998.

The following interests are represented on Committee ME/67:

ACROD, Australia
Australian Association of Certification Bodies
Australian Association of Occupational Therapists
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Committee of Independent Living Centres
Australian Industry Group
The Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia
Crippled Childrens Association S.A.
Department of Veterans Affairs, Australia
Disability Services Office, S.A.
Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries, Australia
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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

RECONFIRMATION

OF

AS/NZS 3856.1:1998

**Hoists and ramps for people with disabilities—Vehicle-mounted
Part 1: Product requirements**

RECONFIRMATION NOTICE

Technical Committee ME-067 has reviewed the content of this publication and in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation, it has been determined that the publication is still valid and does not require change.

Certain documents referenced in the publication may have been amended since the original date of publication. Users are advised to ensure that they are using the latest versions of such documents as appropriate, unless advised otherwise in this Reconfirmation Notice.

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The following are represented on Technical Committee ME-067:

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Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association
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Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS)
Novita Children's Services
Occupational Therapy Australia
Physical Disability Australia
Royal Perth Hospital
TAD Australia
The Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia
Therapeutic Goods Administration

NOTES

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Hoists and ramps for people with disabilities—Vehicle-mounted

Part 1: Product requirements

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME/67, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. The Standard originated in 1991 in Australia following a request from Committee ME/5, Cranes, for a Standard which would provide a national reference document for the design of hoists and ramps and the installation of such hoists and ramps into or onto motor vehicles for the transportation of people with disabilities. A subsequent survey among manufacturers of hoists and ramps, persons involved in modifying road vehicles to attach hoists or ramps, road traffic authorities, and bus and taxi service providers verified the need for a Standard.

So that products may comply with a Standard both before and after their installation in a vehicle, two Standards were prepared, viz. this Standard, and AS/NZS 3856.2, *Hoists and ramps for people with disabilities—Vehicle-mounted, Part 2: Installation requirements*. This Standard requires products to be tested in their fully assembled condition, but with the appliance not attached to a vehicle.

The Standard covers ramps as well as hoists because some hoisting appliances deploy a platform which forms a ramp or a set of ramps during the operating cycle.

The Standard covers only those appliances which necessarily are attached to a vehicle during their use. The types of appliances which are placed next to a vehicle for hoisting a person into the vehicle are covered in AS 3581, *Mechanical aids for patient lifting and moving—Safety requirements*.

The specified test load takes into account the fact that an attendant may be on the platform at the same time as a wheelchair occupant. However, it is not recommended that an attendant accompanies an occupied wheelchair on the platform due to the fact that the requirements cannot cover all of the issues necessary for the safety of the attendant.

While it is recognized that users of vehicle mounted hoists and ramps may or may not be in the company of an attendant, the requirements in the Standard do not cover all requirements for the sole operation of an appliance by a user, self-operated appliances usually being tailored to their specific needs.

The term ‘normative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

Australian/New Zealand Standard**Hoists and ramps for people with disabilities—Vehicle-mounted****Part 1: Product requirements**

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE This Standard specifies requirements for the design and performance of hoists and ramps which are intended to be installed in motor vehicles, for use by people with disabilities in boarding and alighting from motor vehicles.

Freestanding hoisting appliances or appliances for hoisting unoccupied wheelchairs into or onto a motor vehicle are not included.

NOTE: This Standard does not cover all of the access needs of ambulant people with disabilities using a hoist. Vertical height requirements at the hoist/vehicle interface cannot be specified due to the variable limitations imposed by vehicle design.

1.2 OBJECTIVE The objective of this Standard is to provide persons concerned with the manufacture of hoists and ramps and their installation into or onto motor vehicles, community transport organizers, regulatory authorities and users with minimum design and performance specifications for hoists and ramps intended to be installed in vehicles.

1.3 TYPES OF APPLIANCES The following types of appliances are referred to in this Standard:

- (a) *Type A*—an appliance incorporating a platform which is required to be raised and lowered under load. The platform is deployed, stored, raised, and lowered by power or gravity, or by a combination of these means.
- (b) *Type B*—an appliance incorporating a platform which is required to be raised and lowered under load. The platform is deployed and stored manually, and raised and lowered by power or gravity, or by a combination of these means.
- (c) *Type C*—an appliance incorporating a sling, seat, or harness. The sling, seat, or harness is deployed and stored either manually or by power, and is raised and lowered by power or gravity, or by a combination of these means.
- (d) *Type D*—an appliance incorporating one or more ramps which remain in the inclined position during use. The ramp/s is/are deployed and stored by power or gravity, or by a combination of these means.
- (e) *Type E*—an appliance incorporating one or more ramps which remain in the inclined position during use. The ramp/s is/are deployed and stored manually.

NOTE: Type A and Type B appliances include appliances which, during their operation, deploy a platform which changes attitude from an inclined plane to a horizontal plane or to a plane which is parallel with the plane of the floor of the vehicle to which the appliance is attached.

1.4 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
1428	Design for access and mobility
1428.1	Part 1: General requirements for access—Buildings