

Australian/New Zealand Standard®

Domestic kitchen assemblies—Methods of test

Method 14: Determination of strength of handles

1 SCOPE This Standard sets out the procedure for determining the strength of handles used on kitchen units.

2 PRINCIPLE A cyclic load is applied to the handle of the kitchen unit in order to test the integrity of the handles.

3 APPARATUS A *claw mechanism*—mechanism which has a suitably shaped claw capable of applying a load of 100 N to the handle in the same direction that it would be subjected to when in use, i.e. perpendicular to drawer fronts and hinged doors, parallel to sliding doors and sliding flaps.

4 PROCEDURE The procedure is as follows:

- (a) Rigidly hold the drawer, door or flap to which the handle is attached.
- (b) Attach the claw mechanism to the handle and apply the load 10 times at rate of 6 cycles per minute.

NOTE: When testing strip handles apply the load at one end.

- (c) A unit or component shall record a pass if, at the completion of the test, none of the following defects affects the strength or function of the unit or component:
 - (i) Fracturing of any member, joint or component.
 - (ii) Any loosening of joints intended to be rigid.
 - (iii) Deformation or wear of any component.
 - (iv) Loosening of any components fixed to the unit.

5 TEST REPORT The following shall be reported:

- (a) Reference to this Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard (i.e. AS/NZS 4387.14).
- (b) A detailed description of the unit or component tested, including the manufacturer's product reference.
- (c) The method of test and the test level to which the unit or component has been tested.
- (d) Details of any defects observed before the test.
- (e) Details of any defects observed after the test affecting the strength or function of the unit or component, for example—
 - (i) fracture of any member, joint or component;
 - (ii) permanent loosening of joints intended to be rigid, shown by hand pressure applied to suitable members;

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- (iii) deformation or wear of any component that will essentially affect its function;
- (iv) loosening of any means of fixing components to the articles;
- (v) moveable parts that do not open or close freely, or catches that do not operate smoothly; or
- (vi) any other damage that may cause damage or snag clothing.
- (f) If required, the magnitude of any non-standard forces used.
- (g) Details of any deviation from the test procedure.
- (h) The test result, pass or fail.
- (i) Name of the laboratory or authority which performed the test.
- (j) The date on which the test was carried out.
- (k) Reference to a calibration certificate for the apparatus used, the calibration authority and the expiry date of the certificate.

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by the Joint Technical Committee BD/89, Kitchen Units. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 18 March 1996 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 22 April 1996 and published on 5 June 1996.

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