AS 7630:2017

Australian STANDARD®

Railway Infrastructure – Track Classification

RISSB
RAIL INDUSTRY SAFETY AND STANDARDS BOARD

Infrastructure Standard

This Australian Standard® AS 7630 Railway Infrastructure – Track Classification was prepared by a Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board (RISSB) Development Group consisting of representatives from the following organisations:

ARTC	Pacific National	Queensland Rail
TfNSW ASA	PTA SA	PTA WA
Brookfield Rail	Aurizon	Rio Tinto

The Standard was approved by the Development Group and the Infrastructure Standing Committee on December, 2016. On January 30, 2017 the RISSB Board approved the Standard for release.

This standard was issued for public consultation and was independently validated before being approved.

Development of the Standard was undertaken in accordance with RISSB's accredited process. As part of the approval process, the Standing Committee verified that proper process was followed in developing the Standard.

RISSB wishes to acknowledge the positive contribution of subject matter experts in the development of this Standard. Their efforts ranged from membership of the Development Group through to individuals providing comment on a draft of the Standard during the open review.

I commend this Standard to the Australasian rail industry as it represents industry good practice and has been developed through a rigorous process.

Paul Daly
Chief Executive Officer
Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board

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Document control

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Document history

Publication Version	Effective Date	Reason for and Extent of Change(s)
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2010	March 17, 2010	Version AS 7630:2010 (first publication)

Approval

Name	Date
Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board	30/01/2017

Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This Standard describes the Railway Track Classification system.

The main purpose of this Standard is to establish track classification with functional and performance requirements, specific characteristics and limitations for the various track classifications.

1.2 Scope

This Standard applies to all Railway networks in Australia.

This Standard covers existing, upgraded and new main line railway tracks.

This Standard covers all heavy rail freight passenger networks over 600 mm track gauge and heritage and tourist railways.

This Standard is the lead standard for track.

1.3 Compliance

There are two types of control contained within Australian Standards developed by RISSB:

(a) Requirements.

(b) Recommendations.

Requirements – it is mandatory to follow all requirements to claim full compliance with the Standard.

Requirements are identified within the text by the term ‘shall’.

Recommendations – do not mention or exclude other possibilities but do offer the one that is preferred.

Recommendations are identified within the text by the term ‘should’.

Recommendations recognise that there could be limitations to the universal application of the control, i.e. the identified control cannot be able to be applied or other controls can be appropriate / better.

For compliance purposes, where a recommended control is not applied as written in the standard it could be incumbent on the adopter of the standard to demonstrate their actual method of controlling the risk as part of their WHS or Rail Safety National Law obligations. Similarly, it could also be incumbent on an adopter of the standard to demonstrate their method of controlling the risk to contracting entities, or interfacing organisations where the risk may be shared.

Controls in RISSB standards address known railway hazards as included in an appendix.

1.4 Referenced documents

1.4.1 Informative references

The following referenced documents are used by this Standard for information only:

(a) AS 4292.1 - Railway Safety Management - Part 1 "General".