RISSB
RAIL INDUSTRY SAFETY AND STANDARDS BOARD

STANDARDS

AS 7522

Access and Egress

Australian STANDARD

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Development of this Standard was prepared by a Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board (RISSB) Development Group consisting of representatives from the following organisations:

Transport for NSW; Downer; ARTC; Queensland Rail; Metro Trains Melbourne; Rail, Tram & Bus Union; and Aurizon.

The Rolling Stock Standing Committee verified that RISSB's accredited process was followed in developing the product, before the RISSB Board approved the document for publication.

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 comments 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.

Alan Fedda
Chief Executive Officer
Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board

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Document details

First published as: AS 7522:2021

ISBN: 978 1 76175 252 0

Document history

Publication Version	Effective Date	Reason for and Extent of Change(s)
2025	27 June 2025	This document has been reviewed to ensure it remains relevant and applicable. The latest review assessed the content, confirming that while updates were made to align with current industry practices, technologies, and regulatory requirements, the original authorship and copyright have been acknowledged as required.

Approval

Name	Date
Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board	27 June 2025

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Preface

This standard was prepared by the Access and Egress Development Group, overseen by the RISSB Rolling Stock Standing Committee.

Objective

The objective of this Standard is to describe the requirements for access and egress of crew and passengers on locomotives, freight, passenger, crew cars and infrastructure maintenance (track machines) rolling stock.

The main purpose of the requirements is to provide safe, efficient, equitable and dignified access and egress, and to minimize risks to passengers and crew associated with access and egress, emergency evacuations, and requirements for people with disabilities.

Compliance

There are four types of provisions contained within Australian Standards developed by RISSB:

(a) Requirements.

(b) Recommendations.

(c) Permissions.

(d) Constraints.

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 recognize that there could be limitations to the universal application of the control, i.e. the identified control is not able to be applied or other controls are more appropriate or better.

Permissions – conveys consent by providing an allowable option. Permissions are identified within the text by the term ‘may’.

Constraints – provided by an external source such as legislation. Constraints are identified within the text by the term ‘must’.

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.

RISSB Standards address known hazards within the railway industry. Hazards, and clauses within this Standard that address those hazards, are listed in Appendix B.

Appendices in RISSB Standards may be designated either “normative” or “informative”. A "normative" appendix is an integral part of a Standard and compliance with it is a requirement, whereas an "informative" appendix is only for information and guidance.

Commentary

Commentary *C Preface*

This Standard includes a commentary on some of the clauses. The commentary directly follows the relevant clause, is designated by 'C' preceding the clause number and is printed in italics in a box. The commentary is for information and guidance and does not form part of the Standard.

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Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This Standard covers access and egress by passengers and crew on access paths for passengers or access ways for crew and their access devices. This includes the design, construction and maintenance of locomotive, freight, passenger, crew cars and infrastructure maintenance rolling stock.

This Standard applies to new and modified locomotives, freight, passenger, crew cars and infrastructure maintenance rolling stock. Existing rollingstock should be assessed and modified to meet the requirements of this Standard where practical to do so.

This Standard does not cover:

(a) road-rail vehicles;

(b) operation of rolling stock in regard to network safeworking rules and route standards; or

(c) maintenance and operational access to vehicle components by manholes, hatches, service openings, etc or for access by part of the human body.

This Standard is not specifically intended to cover rolling stock used on cane railways, but items from this Standard may be applied to such systems as deemed appropriate by the relevant railway infrastructure manager (RIM).

This Standard is intended to complement the Australian Government Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport Guidelines (DSAPT) rather than interpret or supersede any requirements of the DSAPT. Compliance with the Standard does not indicate that requirements under the DSAPT have been met. When adopting this Standard, the user should be aware that the DSAPT could be altered without notice and therefore this Standard provides only high-level references to the DSAPT.

1.2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that *some* or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document:

- AS 1428.1, *Design for access and mobility, Part 1: General requirements for access - New building work*
- AS 1428.2, *Design for access and mobility, Part 2: Enhanced and additional requirements — Buildings and facilities*
- AS 1657, *Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders — Design, construction and installation*
- AS 1735.12, *Lifts, escalators and moving walks, Part 12: Facilities for persons with disabilities (EN 81-70:2018, MOD)*
- AS 1892.2, *Portable ladders, Part 2: Timber*
- AS 7470, *Human Factors Integration and Technical Requirements for Rail Engineering Projects*
- AS 7489, *Rolling Stock Passenger and Seating Appointments*
- AS 7507, *Rolling Stock Outlines*
- AS 7513, *Interior environment*
- AS 7520.1, *Australian railway rolling stock — Body structural requirements, Part 1: Locomotive*