AUSTRALIAN RAIL INDUSTRY
STANDARDS ORGANISATION

AS 7644

Rail Corridor Access

STANDARDS

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Advancing safety and productivity

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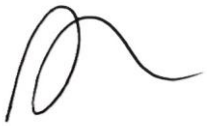
Development of this Standard was prepared by an Australian Rail Industry Standards Organisation (ARISO) Development Group consisting of representatives from the following organisations:

ARC Infrastructure, Aurizon, Aurecon, Inland Rail, Jacobs, KiwiRail, Laing O'Rourke, Metro Trains, Ozzy Tech, PTA, QLD Rail, Railability, Sydney Trains, Transport for NSW, V/Line.

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

ARISO 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
Australian Rail Industry Standards Organisation

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Document history

Publication Version	Effective Date	Reason for and Extent of Change(s)
2025	24 December 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
Australian Rail Industry Standards Organisation	27 November 2025

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Published by the Australian Rail Industry Standards Organisation, GPO Box 1267, Brisbane QLD 4000, Australia.

Preface

This document was prepared by the Rail Corridor Access Development Group, overseen by the ARISO Infrastructure Standing Committee.

THIS PRODUCT DISCUSSES TOPICS RELATING TO SUICIDE AND SELF-HARM WHICH SOME READERS MAY FIND DISTRESSING.

The major changes in this edition are as follows:

(a) Inclusion of access consideration for viaducts and freeways; and

(B) Increased input on awareness to help mitigate the risk of suicide and self-harm events.

Objective

The objective of this document is to outline requirements that encourage rail organizations to adopt a whole-of-life approach to the design, construction and management of rail corridor access. This approach includes the requirements in relation to rail corridor access in terms of design, supply, construction, and maintenance of access controls for a range of operational railways in Australia.

Compliance

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

(c) Requirements.

(d) Recommendations.

(e) Permissions.

(f) 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.

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 organizations where the risk may be shared.

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’.

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

Appendices in ARISO 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 document 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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Figures

Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document covers rail networks as classified in AS 7630, *Railway Infrastructure – Track Classification*.

This document includes the requirements for managing access to the rail corridor to control the level of risks posed by intentional or unintentional trespass or authorized access.

The recommended control requirements are selected to appropriately reflect site features, type of access and activities by the involved parties, including:

(a) operations personnel and vehicles;

(b) maintenance personnel and vehicles;

(c) construction personnel and vehicles;

(d) third-party services personnel and vehicles; and

(e) travelling public (passengers), adjacent landowners and general public.

ARISO does not intend for this document to cover urban on-street tramway or light rail networks, cane railways, or heritage railways operating on private reservation, but the relevant Railway Infrastructure Manager can apply items from this document to such systems as deemed appropriate.

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 4687:2022, *Temporary Fencing and Hoardings*
- AS 4799:2000, *Installation of Underground Utility Services and Pipelines within Railway Boundaries*
- AS 5100:2017, *Bridge Design*
- AS 7367:2025, *Hydrology and Hydraulics*
- AS 7460:2021, *Remotely piloted aircraft systems (Drones) – Operational Requirements*
- AS 7630:2024, *Railway Infrastructure - Track Classification*
- AS 7632:2025, *Railway Infrastructure Signage*
- AS 7658:2020, *Railway Infrastructure - Railway Level Crossing*
- AS 7660:2017, *Radio Communication in the Rail Corridor*
- AS/NZS 3845.1:2015, *Road Safety Barrier Systems*
- *RISSB Guideline – Rail Emergency Management Planning*
- *ONRSR Code of Practice – Train Visibility at Level Crossings*

NOTE:

Documents for informative purposes are listed in a Bibliography at the back of the Standard.