

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Approval and test specification—  
Air-break switches**



### **AS/NZS 3133:2013**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 18 July 2013 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 5 August 2013.

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The following are represented on Committee EL-004:

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Australian Industry Group  
Consumer Electronics Suppliers Association  
Consumers Federation of Australia  
Electrical Compliance Testing Association  
Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council  
Engineers Australia  
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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS 3133.*

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# Australian/New Zealand Standard™

## Approval and test specification— Air-break switches

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories, to supersede AS/NZS 3133:2008, *Approval and test specification—Air-break switches*, from the date of publication except Clause 12.2(a) becomes applicable 3 years from the date of publication.

*This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (November 2014) and Amendment No. 2 (March 2016). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.*

The objective of this Standard is to provide Australian and New Zealand electrical industries with electrical safety requirements and test methods for air-break switches. This Standard does not apply to cord-line switches within the scope of AS/NZS 3127, *Approval and test specification—Cord-line switches*.

This Standard is one of a series of approval and test specifications to be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100, *Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment*. The purpose of this series is to outline the conditions that must be met to secure approval for the sale and use of electrical accessories in Australia and New Zealand. Only safety matters and related conditions are covered.

The essential safety requirements in AS/NZS 3820, *Essential safety requirements for electrical equipment*, that could be applicable to switches are covered by this Standard, taken in conjunction with any other relevant requirements affecting safety.

This Standard was revised to introduce requirements and location of markings for the name or registered trade name or mark of the manufacturer or of the responsible vendor.

This Standard does not include all the necessary provisions of a contract.

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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## 1 SCOPE AND REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

### 1.1 Scope

This Standard applies to air-break switches having current ratings not exceeding 125 A for use in electrical circuits and equipment operating at low voltage but not exceeding 500 V and intended for household or similar use and for use in indoor and outdoor electrical installations.

This Standard does not apply to cord-line switches as defined in AS/NZS 3127.

NOTE: See Clause 3.3 for other relevant Standards covering switches that may affect the application of this Standard.

### 1.2 Referenced documents

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

#### AS

- 1931 High-voltage test techniques
- 1931.1 Part 1: General definitions and test requirements
- 60529 Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)

#### AS/NZS

- 3100 Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment
- 3121 Approval and test specification—Insulating mouldings
- 3127 Approval and test specification—Cord-line switches
- 3947 Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear
- 3947.3 Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units

- 60335 Household and similar electrical appliances—Safety
- 60335.1 Part 1: General requirements (IEC 60335-1 Ed 5, MOD)

- 61058 Switches for appliances
- 61058.1 Part 1: General requirements (IEC 61058-1, Ed. 3.1 (2000), MOD)

#### IEC

- 60669 Switches for household and similar fixed-electrical installations (all parts)

## 2 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply:

### 2.1 Air-break switch

A mechanical device for making and breaking in air a circuit carrying a load current.

For the purpose of this Standard, an air-break switch is referred to as a switch.

### 2.2 Flush switch

A switch for mounting behind or incorporated with a switch plate, the back of the plate being flush with the surface of the wall or enclosure.