

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Wheelchairs

Part 26: Vocabulary



AS/NZS ISO 7176.26:2011

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The following are represented on Committee ME-067:

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Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association
Bus and Coach Association of New Zealand
Consumers Federation of Australia
Department of Family and Communities, SA
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-067, Mobility Appliances For People with Disabilities. to supersede AS 3693—1989, *Wheelchairs—Nomenclature, terms and definitions*.

The objective of this revision is to harmonize with ISO 7176-26 to reflect the currently accepted terminology used internationally for wheelchairs, related devices and seating. This new Standard is more closely aligned with the WHO International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health and ISO 9999, and thus highlights terms that are preferred and those that are now deprecated.

This Standard is identical with and has been reproduced from ISO 7176-26:2007, *Wheelchairs, Part 26: Vocabulary*.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

- (a) Its number appears on the cover and title page while the International Standard number appears only on the cover.
- (b) In the source text ‘this part of ISO 7176’ should read ‘this Australian/New Zealand Standard’.
- (c) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

The term ‘informative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex to which it applies. An ‘informative’ annex is only for information and guidance.

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INTRODUCTION

The provision and selection of wheelchairs and associated seating products relies on clear communication of information relating to these devices. Over time, many terms and definitions have evolved. Unfortunately, this process has resulted in a lack of clear meaning for some terms and duplication of other terms (sometimes with conflicting messages).

For example, the terms tilt and recline are sometimes used interchangeably, but usually have quite distinct meanings. If used inappropriately, an entirely inappropriate wheelchair may be specified or purchased.

The purpose of this part of ISO 7176 is to provide a collection of terms and their definitions to form the basis of clear communication across the field of wheelchair and associated seating and to eliminate confusion from duplication or inappropriate use of terms.

The vocabulary is drawn from surveys of the literature and language used by experts in this field. It excludes, however, terms which are adequately defined in the everyday language of English, medicine and technology.

ISO 7176 recognises that there are a number of terms in use which, because of duplication or inadequacies of meaning, should be replaced by terms from this vocabulary. To help people move towards a common vocabulary, these deprecated terms are included along with a reference to the preferred term.

The development and application of wheelchair standards is particularly dependent upon clear and consistent terms and definitions. Hence, a major proportion of this part of ISO 7176 includes terms and definitions used in more than one of the ISO standards specifically related to ISO Wheelchair Standards. These include the ISO 7176, ISO 10542, and ISO 16840 series, and ISO 7193. Future standards in these series will cite this document for definition of terms wherever possible, thus facilitating the consistent use of a common vocabulary.

This part of ISO 7176 is intended purely as a means of specifying terms and definitions. It does not attempt to classify wheelchairs and associated seating into any classification of device groupings as this is the purpose of ISO 9999. Annex A provides a standard set of descriptors for characterizing wheelchairs.

AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

Wheelchairs

Part 26: Vocabulary

1 Scope

This part of ISO 7176 specifies a vocabulary consisting of terms and definitions used in the field of manual and electrically powered wheelchairs (including scooters) and associated seating systems. This part of ISO 7176 includes, but is not limited to, the preferred terms used in two or more ISO standards of the ISO 7176, ISO 10542, and ISO 16840 series, but does not include terms considered to be adequately defined in everyday English.

NOTE 1 In addition to terms used in the three official ISO languages (English, French and Russian), this International Standard gives the equivalent terms in United States English; these are published under the responsibility of the member body/National Committee for the United States. However, only the terms and definitions given in the official languages can be considered as ISO terms and definitions.

NOTE 2 Annex A provides a standard set of descriptors for characterizing wheelchairs.

2 Rules and elements used in vocabulary

2.1 Rules used in vocabulary

Most terms defined are used in more than one of the ISO standards relating specifically to wheelchairs and seating supports. Terms used in only one of these standards, are defined in the terms and definitions clause of that standard.

Within Clause 4, terms are organized by function. Terms (and the function) can be further specified by adding an adjective as shown in 4.8.

2.2 Organization of elements used in the vocabulary

The structure used throughout the nomenclature is based upon ISO 10241.

3 Abbreviated terms

ATD	anthropometric test device
PSD	postural support device
RLG	reference loader gauge
UDIG	universal docking interface geometry
WTORS	wheelchair-tiedown and occupant-restraint system