

AS/NZS 61535.1(Int):2001  
**(Expires 12 October 2003)**  
(Incorporating Amendment No. 1)

AS/NZS 61535.1(Int)

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Installation couplers**

**Part 1: General requirements**



standards Australia



**STANDARDS**  
NEW ZEALAND  
*Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri*

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 2 July 2001 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 1 August 2001. It was published on 12 October 2001.

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The following interests are represented on Committee EL-004:

Australasian Railway Association  
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association  
Canterbury Manufacturers Association, New Zealand  
Consumer Electronic Suppliers Association  
Consumers Federation of Australia  
Electricity Supply Association of Australia  
International Accreditation New Zealand  
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Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association  
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# Australian/New Zealand Standard™

## Installation couplers

### Part 1: General requirements

Originated as AS 3131—1990.  
Previous edition AS/NZS 3131:1995.  
Jointly revised and redesignated as AS/NZS 61535.1(Int):2001.  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (January 2002).

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Jointly published by Standards Australia International Ltd, GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001 and Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6020

ISBN 0 7337 4036 7

## PREFACE

This Interim Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories, to supersede AS/NZS 3131:1995, *Approval and test specification—Plugs and socket-outlets for use in installation wiring systems* (in part).

A1 | This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (January 2002). 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 Interim Standard is to provide Australian and New Zealand industry (including manufacturers, test laboratories, regulators and installers) with general and safety requirements and test methods for installation couplers. It is based on document IEC 23/256/CDV being the draft of Standard IEC 61535 *Installation Couplers intended for permanent connection, Part 1: General requirements*.

Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand invite comment on this Interim Standard from persons and organizations concerned with installation couplers. The date of expiry of this Interim Standard is two years after publication, at which time this Interim Standard will be confirmed, withdrawn or revised in the light of public comment.

During the life of this Interim Standard, the Committee will monitor all comment as it is received.

Due to delays in finalizing the IEC Standard, EL-004 decided to publish the IEC draft requirements as an Interim Standard to allow Australian and New Zealand manufacturers, regulators, test laboratories and users to have access to the new requirements being developed by the IEC for installation couplers.

Requirements for the following topics are still being developed:

- (a) Installation couplers to be used at ambient temperatures higher than 25°C.
- (b) An impulse voltage test.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard whereas an 'informative' appendix is for information and guidance only.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

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**Interim Australian/New Zealand Standard**  
**Installation couplers**

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**Part 1: General requirements**

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**1 SCOPE**

This Interim Standard applies to installation couplers with two- to five- poles with or without earthing contact and with a rated voltage up to and including 500 V a.c. and a rated current up to and including 32 A for permanent connection in indoor installation systems according to AS/NZS 3000.

NOTE: Installation couplers according to this Standard are used in prefabricated houses, installation cavities (such as suspended floors and ceilings) cable trays and trunking, or in commercial show rooms, mobile or fixed stands at fairs or other exhibitions. They are also used in home and office furniture especially in office screens and partition walls.

Installation couplers are a system which can replace connecting and junction boxes or other connecting devices and are intended for connection and disconnection without load.

Installation couplers complying with this Standard are suitable for use at rated current in ambient temperatures not normally exceeding 25°C, but occasionally reaching 35°C.

This Standard does not apply to the following:

- (a) Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes within the scope of AS/NZS 3109.1.
- (b) Plugs and socket outlets within the scope of AS/NZS 3112.
- (c) Cord extension sockets within the scope of AS/NZS 3120.
- (d) Socket-outlet adaptors within the scope of AS/NZS 3122.
- (e) Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for general industrial applications within the scope of AS/NZS 3123.

**NOTES:**

- 1 This Standard may be used as a guide for installation couplers that fall outside of the scope of the Standard (e.g. for six-pole installation couplers, seven-pole installation couplers and installation couplers having a rated current greater than 32 A).
- 2 Installation couplers with additional contacts for voltages other than supply voltages are outside of the scope of this Standard, but the Standard may be used for the accessories involved, where applicable.
- 3 Guidance for the use of installation couplers is given in Appendix A.
- 4 Installation couplers are not intended to replace socket-outlet systems.