

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Wheelchairs

Part 1: Determination of static stability



AS/NZS 3696.1:2008

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ME-067, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 26 February 2008 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 17 March 2008. This Standard was published on 30 May 2008.

The following are represented on Committee ME-067:

Association of Consultants in Access Australia
Association of Occupational Therapists
Consumers' Federation of Australia
Engineers Australia
Flinders University of South Australia
Furntech
Independent Living Centres Australia
Northern Sydney Area Health Services
Novita Children's Services
Paraplegic & Quadriplegic Association of Australia
Queensland Health
Royal Perth Hospital
The Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Web Shop at www.standards.com.au or Standards New Zealand web site at www.standards.co.nz and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

Alternatively, both organizations publish an annual printed Catalogue with full details of all current Standards. For more frequent listings or notification of revisions, amendments and withdrawals, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand offer a number of update options. For information about these services, users should contact their respective national Standards organization.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Please address your comments to the Chief Executive of either Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand at the address shown on the back cover.

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Wheelchairs

Part 1: Determination of static stability

Originated in Australia as AS 3696.1—1990.
Jointly revised and designated as AS/NZS 3696.1:2008.

COPYRIGHT

© Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher.

Jointly published by Standards Australia, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001 and Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6020

ISBN 0 7337 8711 8

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/NZS 3696.1:1990, *Wheelchairs, Part 1: Determination of static stability*.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from, ISO 7176-1:1999, *Wheelchairs—Part 1: Determination of static disability*.

The objective of this revision is to adopt the latest edition of the ISO Standard, which contains substantive changes to the presentation of the test method.

The objective of this Standard is to provide a suitable test for the determination of static stability of wheelchairs.

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.

References to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian/New Zealand Standards, as follows:

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>	<i>Australian/New Zealand Standard</i>
ISO	AS/NZS
6440 Wheelchairs—Nomenclature, terms and definitions	—
7176 Wheelchairs	3696 Wheelchairs
7176-7 Part 7: Measurement of seating and wheel dimensions	—
7176-11 Part 11: Test dummies	3696.11 Part 11: Test dummies
7176-15 Part 15: Requirements for information disclosure documentation and labelling	—
7176-22 Part 22: Set-up procedures	3696.22 Part 22: Set-up procedures
9999 Technical aids for disabled persons	—

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.

CONTENTS

1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Principle	2
5 Apparatus	2
6 Preparation of the test wheelchair	2
7 Adjusting the wheelchair	3
8 Placing the test dummy in the wheelchair	3
9 Test for static stability in the forward direction	3
10 Test for static stability in the rearward direction	6
11 Test for rearward static stability with rear antitip devices	8
12 Test for static stability in the sideways direction	10
13 Test report	12
14 Disclosure of results	12
Annex A (informative) Methods of preventing wheels from sliding on the test plane	13
Annex B (informative) Explanation of figures	14

INTRODUCTION

It is important to know the static-stability characteristics of a wheelchair for prescription and adjustment purposes. Some users need large reserves of stability to ensure their safety while others prefer finely balanced wheelchairs which have better manoeuvrability.

This part of ISO 7176 specifies tests in which static stability is measured with wheel locks (parking brakes) applied, as is the case if the wheelchair is standing on a slope. Tests are also made with the wheels unlocked, simulating the situation where the wheelchair is standing on a slope with the wheels against obstacles, the situation on a level surface with the wheels unlocked and the wheelchair user reaching for an object, or instability while rolling. These tests also give information about the ease with which a wheelchair can be tipped about its rear wheels, such as happens when negotiating kerbs or balancing on the rear wheels.

AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

Wheelchairs

Part 1:

Determination of static stability

1 Scope

This part of ISO 7176 specifies the test methods for determining the static tipping stability of wheelchairs, including scooters. This part of ISO 7176 is applicable to wheelchairs and vehicles that are included in the 12.21 series described in ISO 9999 and are intended to provide indoor and outdoor mobility for people with disabilities whose mass does not exceed the maximum mass of the test dummy given in ISO 7176-11.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 7176. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 7176 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 6440, *Wheelchairs — Nomenclature, terms, and definitions.*

ISO 7176-7, *Wheelchairs — Part 7: Measurement of seating and wheel dimensions.*

ISO 7176-11, *Wheelchairs — Part 11: Test dummies.*

ISO 7176-15, *Wheelchairs — Part 15: Requirements for information disclosure, documentation and labelling.*

ISO 7176-22, *Wheelchairs — Part 22: Set-up procedures.*

ISO 9999, *Technical aids for disabled persons — Classification.*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO 7176, the terms and definitions given in ISO 6440 and the following apply:

3.1

lockable wheels

wheels equipped with parking brakes, or wheels whose rolling motion is locked by the means of propulsion (e.g., by hands, levers, motors)

3.2

tipping angle

angle of the test plane from the horizontal at which the forces become zero under all uphill wheels

NOTE A number of methods are available with which to determine when the forces become zero under the uphill wheels. These include, but are not limited to, the following: the ability to pull pieces of paper from beneath the wheels, visual identification of when the wheels lift from the test plane or the use of force-sensing instrumentation.