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Australian Standard® 1657-1985

SAA CODE FOR FIXED PLATFORMS, WALKWAYS, STAIRWAYS, AND LADDERS



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter



This Australian standard was prepared by Committee SF/13, Platforms, Gangways, Stairways and Ladders. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 19 July 1985 and published on 4 October 1985.

The following interests are represented on Committee SF/13:

Aluminium Development Council
Australian Gas Association
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia
Confederation of Australian Industry
Department of Employment and Industrial Affairs, Vic.
Department of Industrial Relations, N.S.W.
Department of Labour and Industry, Tas.
Electricity Commission of New South Wales
Master Builders Federation of Australia
Metal Trades Industry Association of Australia
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Public Works Department, N.S.W.
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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

FIXED PLATFORMS, WALKWAYS, STAIRWAYS, AND LADDERS—DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND INSTALLATION

known as the

SAA CODE FOR FIXED PLATFORMS, WALKWAYS, STAIRWAYS, AND LADDERS

AS 1657—1985

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PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Platforms, Gangways, Stairways and Ladders, to supersede AS 1657—1974.

The standard now includes requirements for the use of aluminium and grating. Specific lengths of landings in ladderways for step-type ladders and rung-type ladders have also been included.

Measurements related to handrails and width between stiles of ladder types have been changed to align more closely with measurements nationally applied by statutory authorities.

Other changes have been introduced in the following areas:

- (a) Improved diagrams throughout the text.
- (b) Clause 1.3—a new clause listing all referenced documents.
- (c) Clause 2.1—includes reference to AS 1664 and AS 1665.
- (d) Clause 2.3—introduces requirements for aluminium components.
- (e) Clause 2.6—places a slightly more restrictive diameter on bolts to be used for attachments.
- (f) Clause 2.7—a new clause outlining requirements for welding.
- (g) Clause 2.8.2—includes reference to AS 2269.
- (h) Clause 3.1.2—introduces grating for walkways as an alternative for cleats.
- (j) Clause 3.2.1.2—amends requirements for toe-boards.
- (k) Clause 3.3.2.2—provides a more stringent requirement for timber floors exposed to weather.
- (l) Clause 5.8.2—includes deflection criteria for individual rung ladders.
- (m) Clause 5.8.4—facilitates the provision of staggered individual rungs.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

for

FIXED PLATFORMS, WALKWAYS, STAIRWAYS, AND LADDERS—
DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND INSTALLATION

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE. This standard sets out requirements for the design, construction, and installation of fixed platforms, walkways, stairways, and ladders which are intended to provide means of safe access to and safe working at places normally used by operating, inspection, maintenance, and servicing personnel.

The standard does not apply to situations where special provision is made in appropriate building or other Statutory Regulations, e.g. means of escape from fire. Requirements for portable ladders are not included in this standard.

1.2 APPLICATION. The design, construction, and installation of every platform, walkway, stairway, and ladder shall comply with the appropriate

requirements of Section 2 and the specific requirements for the type of structure, as follows:

- (a) Platforms and walkways Section 3.
- (b) Stairways Section 4.
- (c) Fixed ladders Section 5.

The application of the relevant Sections and the limits of slope are illustrated in Fig. 1.1.

Notwithstanding the above, where it is not practicable on special structures and vehicles to comply with all of the relevant requirements of this standard, the proposed design shall be submitted to the relevant Statutory Authority for acceptance.

NOTE: Special structures include radio masts, towers, and the like. Vehicles include road tankers, waste disposal trucks, and the like.

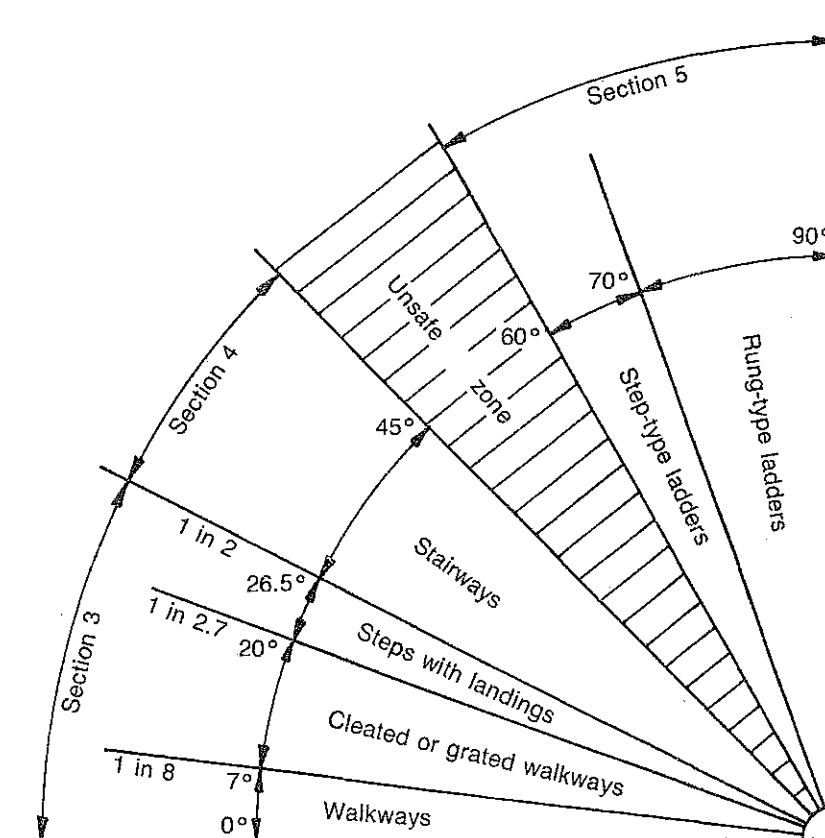


Fig. 1.1. LIMITS OF SLOPE