

Australian Standard™

**Motor vehicles—Rear marker plates**

**Part 1: Manufacturing and classification  
requirements for Class 1A and  
Class 1 reflective plates**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME-053, Heavy Road Vehicles. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 26 May 2003 and published on 15 July 2003.

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The following are represented on Committee ME-053:

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Australian Road Transport Suppliers Association  
Australian Trucking Association  
AUSTROADS  
Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia  
Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services (Australia)  
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Australian Standard™

## **Motor vehicles—Rear marker plates**

### **Part 1: Manufacturing and classification requirements for Class 1A and Class 1 reflective plates**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-053, Heavy Road Vehicles, to supersede AS 4001.1—1992, *Motor vehicles—Rear marker plates, Part 1: Manufacturing requirements*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide motor vehicle rear marker plate manufacturers with manufacturing requirements that specify materials, production processes, graphics and text design, performance requirements and test methods.

This Standard is Part 1 of AS 4001, *Motor vehicles—Rear marker plates*, which is published in Parts as follows:

- Part 1: Manufacturing and classification requirements for Class 1A and Class 1 reflective plates (this Standard)
- Part 2: Fitting requirements for Class 1A, Class 1 and Class 2 reflective plates
- Part 3: Manufacturing and classification requirements for Class 2 reflective plates

During the 1980s, the then Australian Federal Office of Road Safety initiated a program to improve the night time visibility of vehicles over 12 tonnes GVM. This resulted in the adoption by Australia of the rear marker format proposed in Germany by the Allgemeiner Deutscher Automobile Club (ADAC). This rear marker plate had been earlier adopted for use on US military transport vehicles in Germany. Subsequently rear marker plates were introduced in Australian Design Rules.

This revision upgrades the Australian performance requirements for reflective rear marker plates to that of UN/ECE regulation 70 amendment 1 by introducing the use of Class 1A retroreflective material. The Class 1A material enables the use of pressure sensitive rear markers.

This revision includes the option of using Category 34 plates on both sides of the rear of the vehicle.

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

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard**  
**Motor vehicles—Rear marker plates****Part 1: Manufacturing and classification requirements for Class 1A and Class 1 reflective plates**

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies manufacturing requirements for Class 1A and Class 1 reflectorized rear marker plates intended for use on road vehicles. It defines materials, production processes, graphics and text design, performance requirements and test methods.

## NOTES:

- 1 Appendix A gives guidelines on necessary durability under user maintenance conditions.
- 2 Part 2 of this Standard (AS 4001.2) specifies fitting requirements on vehicles including the location of rear marker plates.
- 3 Part 3 of this Standard (AS 4001.3) specifies manufacturing requirements for Class 2 reflectorized rear marker plates.

**1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

## AS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 1744   | Forms of letters and numerals for road signs (known as Standard alphabets for road signs) |
| 4001   | Motor vehicles—Rear marker plates   |
| 4001.2 | Part 2: Fitting requirements for Class 1A, Class 1 and Class 2 reflective plates          |
| 4001.3 | Part 3: Manufacturing and classification requirements for Class 2 reflective plates       |

## AS/NZS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 1734   | Aluminium and aluminium alloys—Flat sheet, coiled sheet and plate       |
| 1906   | Retroreflective materials and devices for road traffic control purposes |
| 1906.1 | Part 1: Retroreflective materials                                       |

**1.3 DEFINITIONS**

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

**1.3.1 Backing material**

Either a rigid plate, the surface of which has been prepared prior to the application of the retroreflective material or a properly cleaned surface of a motor vehicle or trailer.

**1.3.2 Gross vehicle mass (GVM)**

The maximum loaded mass of the vehicle, either—

- (a) specified by the manufacturer on an identification plate on the vehicle; or