

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Wheelchair containment and occupant retention systems for accessible transport vehicles designed for use by both sitting and standing passengers

Part 1: Systems for rearward-facing wheelchair-seated passengers



AS/NZS ISO 10865.1:2015

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ME-067, Assistive Technology Products for Persons with Disability. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 9 June 2015 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 29 May 2015. This Standard was published on 30 June 2015.

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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS ISO 10865.1.

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First published as AS/NZS ISO 10865.1:2015.

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Jointly published by SAI Global Limited under licence from Standards Australia Limited, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001 and by Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6140.

ISBN 978 1 76035 146 5

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-067, Assistive Technology Products for Persons with Disability.

The objective of this Standard is to specify design and performance requirements and associated test methods, requirements for manufacturer instructions and warnings to installers and users as well as requirements for product labelling and disclosure of test information.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO 10865-1:2012, *Wheelchair containment and occupant retention systems for accessible transport vehicles designed for use by both sitting and standing passengers*, Part 1:: *Systems for rearward-facing wheelchair-seated passengers*.

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

- (a) In the source text ‘this part of ISO 10865’ should read ‘this Australian/New Zealand Standard’.
- (b) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

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

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>	<i>Australian/New Zealand Standard</i>
ISO	AS/NZS ISO
7176 Wheelchairs	7176 Wheelchairs
7176-11 Part 11: Test dummies	7176.11 Part 11: Test dummies
7176-26 Part 26: Vocabulary	7176.26 Part 26: Vocabulary
	AS
7176-13 Part 13: Determination of coefficient of friction of test surfaces	3696 Wheelchairs
	3696.13 Part 13: Determination of coefficient of friction of test surfaces

Only normative references that have been adopted as Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standard have been listed.

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

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INTRODUCTION

Providing safe transportation for wheelchair-seated passengers in motor vehicles usually requires installation of aftermarket equipment to secure the wheelchair and provide passenger restraint during emergency vehicle manoeuvres and crash conditions that are appropriate to the size and travel conditions of the vehicle. ISO 10542-1^[15] establishes design and performance requirements and associated test methods for wheelchair tiedown and occupant restraint systems (WTORS) intended for use by forward-facing wheelchair-seated passengers in all types of motor vehicles that have been modified for use by people seated in wheelchairs. The provisions of ISO 10542-1 were based on the belief that WTORS manufacturers are not able to control the types of vehicles and travel modes in which most of their products are installed and used. Therefore ISO 10542-1^[15] requires frontal sled-impact testing of WTORS to nominal worst-case crash conditions of smaller vehicles, such as full-size vans and minivans, using a simulated crash acceleration/deceleration pulse that results in a change in sled speed (ΔV) of 48 km/h.

While this one-size-fits-all approach to WTORS crashworthiness testing is appropriate for equipment intended for general use in all types of motor vehicles, it generally leads to products that are over designed for use in larger and heavier vehicles used primarily in low-speed intra-city transportation. This is particularly the case for larger accessible transit vehicles in which passengers are allowed to travel sitting as well as standing, hereafter referred to as accessible transit vehicles-sitting and standing, or ATV-SS.

Recognizing these different and significantly lower transportation safety requirements for ATV-SSs in a new standard can be expected to result in alternative solutions for safely transporting wheelchair-seated passengers in these vehicle environments. These solutions are more compatible with operational needs (e.g. fixed-route schedules) of these transportation services and offer wheelchair users a greater level of usability and independence than is achieved with WTORS designed to comply with 48 km/h crash conditions. More specifically, accident/injury data for ATV-SSs indicate that the frequencies of occupant fatalities and serious injuries per million passenger kilometres travelled are significantly lower than for smaller vehicles that travel at much higher speeds^[1]. In fact, analysis of data from police reports of accidents involving fixed-route intra-city buses indicates that the likelihood of a collision event for these vehicles is sufficiently rare to justify basing performance requirements for safety equipment installed in these vehicles on accelerations and decelerations that occur during non-crash conditions, such as emergency vehicle manoeuvres, including sudden stopping, rapid acceleration, and turning corners at excessive speeds. Several studies have clearly demonstrated that ATV-SS accelerations that may result from such emergency manoeuvres are all below $1g$ ^{[2][3]}.

Recognizing the different safety needs of ATV-SS passenger environments in the early 1990s, many European countries^{[4][5][6]}, as well as Canada and Australia^[7], began implementing rearward-facing wheelchair passenger stations (RF-WPS) for use by wheelchair-seated passengers travelling in these vehicles. In practice, the RF-WPS concept has been well received by both wheelchair users and transit providers because of increased passenger independence, significantly reduced driver involvement and reductions in schedule delays^{[7][8]}. However, from an injury-risk perspective, the concept is not ideal in several important ways. For example, some wheelchairs do not have brakes or may have defective brakes, allowing the wheelchair to have excessive movement. Also, some aisle-side barriers do not work effectively with some types of wheelchairs, such as scooters, and allow tipping or swerving of wheelchairs into the centre aisle during vehicle turning. Attempts to resolve these deficiencies by some transporters have resulted in the addition of various types of auxiliary wheelchair securement straps that require driver intervention^{[7][9]}. This nullifies a main advantage of the RF-WPS-independent vehicle access by the wheelchair user. Furthermore, many countries have no national standards for the design, testing and installation of a RF-WPS, therefore misapplication of the rearward-facing concept may readily occur in practice.

The purpose of this part of ISO 10865 is to establish minimum design and performance requirements for RF-WPS and to establish test methods for the performance requirements. This will provide wheelchair-seated passengers using RF-WPS with a reasonable level of transportation safety while maintaining a high level of usability and independence during travel in ATV-SS.

A fundamental principle behind the concept of an RF-WPS in ATV-SS is that correctly designed passive containment (which does not require the physical attachment of securement devices by the wheelchair user or vehicle operator) of an occupied wheelchair during normal travel and emergency vehicle manoeuvres is sufficient to provide a reasonable level of transportation safety to wheelchair-seated passengers. This level of safety is comparable to that provided to other vehicle occupants, including standing passengers, who hold

onto stanchions and straps to resist movement during vehicle accelerations and decelerations. In this regard, a primary feature of RF-WPS required by this part of ISO 10865 is a forward excursion barrier (FEB) against which the wheelchair passenger backs their wheelchair upon entering the RF-WPS. The primary function of the FEB is to prevent forward movement of the wheelchair during vehicle decelerations of normal or emergency braking. However, if the wheelchair backrest and the back of the head of the wheelchair user are in close proximity to the FEB, this structure may also limit forward movement of the wheelchair passenger beyond that provided by the wheelchair backrest during emergency braking, or even in the rare event of a frontal collision. With regard to the latter, while the primary performance requirements for wheelchair containment set forth in Annex B are for non-collision vehicle accelerations and decelerations of less than 1g, Annex C specifies strength testing of the FEB structure based on 3g wheelchair-plus-occupant loading.

Lateral displacement, rotation or tipping of occupied wheelchairs in an RF-WPS are typically limited in one direction by the vehicle sidewall. Lateral displacement, rotation or tipping of the wheelchair into the centre aisle are typically limited by a physical barrier, such as a vertical stanchion or horizontal padded arm or bar, referred to as a lateral excursion barrier, or LEB. However, in an effort to avoid being unnecessarily design restrictive, this part of ISO 10865 does not require or specify any particular structure to limit displacement, rotation or tipping of the wheelchair toward the vehicle aisle. Rather, this part of ISO 10865 establishes performance requirements and associated test methods to assess whether the features of the RF-WPS sufficiently limit lateral wheelchair movement and tipping in this direction.

Wheelchair movement toward the rear of the vehicle is limited in the passive mode by requiring minimum friction properties for the vehicle floor within the RF-WPS that generate friction forces on the tyres of wheels that have been locked by applying the wheelchair brakes or by the drive train of powered wheelchairs for which the power has been turned off during travel. Active resistance to rearward wheelchair movement may also be provided by implementing vehicle-anchored occupant retention and/or wheelchair containment devices, such as a pivoting padded bar, and/or by the wheelchair user grabbing a handhold within the RF-WPS that complies with geometry and location specifications of this part of ISO 10865. Use of a handhold and/or an active occupant retention device will also help limit rearward movement of the wheelchair passenger relative to the wheelchair seat during vehicle accelerations. If a specific RF-WPS design requires active application of an occupant retention and/or wheelchair containment device to pass the rearward wheelchair containment test of Annex B, it is important that a warning to use this device be clearly displayed in the RF-WPS.

As indicated above, this part of ISO 10865 assumes that retention of the occupant in their wheelchair, which is important to minimize the risk of serious injuries, even in low-g non-crash events, depends largely on retention features provided by, and on, the wheelchair. The wheelchair backrest will generally provide sufficient retention during vehicle braking but, as previously noted, the FEB can further reduce forward occupant movement in the vehicle when the back and head of the wheelchair passenger are in close proximity to the FEB. Retention of the wheelchair passenger during lateral accelerations caused by vehicle turning is generally provided by wheelchair armrests and lateral torso postural supports that are customized components of the wheelchair seat, but may be augmented by LEBs. The use of wheelchair-mounted postural belts are important for passive occupant retention during vehicle accelerations and this practice is therefore encouraged by requirements for user warnings displayed in the RF-WPS. In addition, as noted above, this part of ISO 10865 allows RF-WPS to provide active vehicle-anchored passenger retention and wheelchair containment devices that can be easily implemented by the wheelchair user or driver, and it specifies design and location requirements for handholds that can be used by capable wheelchair-seated passengers to augment containment of the wheelchair and enhance retention and stability of the wheelchair passenger. In addition, a vehicle-mounted lap belt or some other retention device is required in order to prevent an otherwise unrestrained occupant from falling out of their wheelchair during unexpected vehicle manoeuvres.

Informative design guidelines are provided in Annex E to aid manufacturers in designing RF-WPS that conform with the requirements of this part of ISO 15608. An RF-WPS may also be equipped with WTORS for use by forward-facing wheelchair users, but requirements and specifications for these systems are not within the scope of this part of ISO 10865.

NOTES

AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

Wheelchair containment and occupant retention systems for accessible transport vehicles designed for use by both sitting and standing passengers**Part 1:
Systems for rearward-facing wheelchair-seated passengers****1 Scope**

This part of ISO 10865 is applicable to wheelchair passenger spaces (RF-WPSs) intended for use by rearward-facing wheelchair-seated occupants, with a body mass greater than 22 kg, when travelling in accessible transport vehicles. It is applicable to systems for use in vehicles used mainly on fixed route services when operated under normal and emergency driving conditions, where passengers are allowed to travel both sitting and standing. It assumes that the maximum acceleration imparted to the vehicle in any direction during emergency driving manoeuvres will not exceed 1g.

This part of ISO 10865 specifies design and performance requirements and associated test methods, requirements for manufacturer instructions and warnings to installers and users as well as requirements for product labelling and disclosure of test information.

The primary purpose of this part of ISO 10865 is to limit those movements of a rearward-facing wheelchair, including scooters with three or more wheels, that can result in hazardous contact with the vehicle interior or injury to other passengers.

The provisions of this part of ISO 10865 apply primarily to a complete RF-WPS, but subsets of the provisions can be applied to components and subassemblies sold separately, as appropriate to the specific functions of the components and/or subassemblies they are intended to replace.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 3795, *Road vehicles, and tractors and machinery for agriculture and forestry — Determination of burning behaviour of interior materials*

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

ISO 7176-13, *Wheelchairs — Part 13: Determination of coefficient of friction of test surfaces*

ISO 7176-26, *Wheelchairs — Part 26: Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 7176-26 and the following apply.

3.1**ambulatory passengers**

passengers who do not require the use of a wheelchair