

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

**Earth-moving machinery—Quickhitches  
for excavators and backhoe loaders**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee ME-063, Earth-moving Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 24 January 2008. This Standard was published on 27 February 2008.

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The following are represented on Committee ME-063:

- AUSTROAD
  - Australian Industry Group
  - Construction and Mining Equipment Industry Group
  - Department of Mines and Energy, Qld
  - Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Qld
  - Department of Primary Industries, Mine Safety, NSW
  - Motor Trades Association of Australia
  - Safety Institute of Australia
  - WorkCover New South Wales
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee ME-063, Earth-moving Equipment.

The objective of this Standard is to provide all those involved in the earth-moving industry with requirements on the design and use of quickhitches to mount attachments onto excavator and rear arms of backhoe loaders.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

**Earth-moving machinery—Quickhitches for excavators and backhoe loaders**

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies requirements for quickhitches used to mount attachments onto excavators and the rear arm of a backhoe loader.

**1.2 APPLICATION**

All quickhitches covered by this Standard are applicable to excavators and the rear arm of a backhoe loader.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The documents below are referred to in this Standard.

AS

2549 Cranes (including hoists and winches)—Glossary of terms

AS/NZS

4360 Risk management

**1.4 DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS 2549 and those below apply.

**1.4.1 Backhoe arm**

The final component at the rear of the backhoe loader to which the quickhitch is attached.

**1.4.2 Competent person**

A person who has acquired through training, qualification or experience, or a combination of them, the knowledge and skills to carry out the required task.

**1.4.3 Excavator arm**

The final component of the excavator to which the quickhitch is attached.

**1.4.4 Primary retention system**

A system used to connect/disconnect attachments to the quickhitch.

**1.4.5 Quickhitch**

A device fitted to an excavator arm or a backhoe arm for the purpose of rapidly mounting/dismounting attachments.

**1.4.6 Rated lift point capacity**

The maximum load the quickhitch has been designed to lift.