

AS 3973—1991

Australian Standard[®]

Mobile shower/toilet chairs

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME/67, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 19 July 1991 and published on 16 September 1991.

The following interests are represented on Committee ME/67:

ACROD

Attorney-General's Department

Australian Association of Occupational Therapists

Canberra College of Advanced Education

Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia

Confederation of Australian Industry

Crippled Childrens Association of South Australia

Department of Health, New South Wales

Department of Health, Queensland

Department of the Premier and Cabinet, South Australia

Department of Veterans Affairs

Disability Advisory Council of Australia

Disabled Peoples International (Australia)

Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries

Health Department, Victoria

Institution of Engineers, Australia

Metal Trades Industry Association of Australia

National Committee Independent Living Centres

Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association of New South Wales

Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association of Victoria

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities following a request for a Standard from the Australian Association of Occupational Therapists. This Association expressed concern about the adverse effect of some design aspects of shower/toilet chairs on the safety and comfort of users, in particular, the materials and finishes used in the manufacture of chairs which often deteriorated after a limited period of exposure to wet conditions.

Included as an appendix to the Standard is a list of information to be requested by the manufacturer/retailer from the purchaser ordering a shower/toilet chair. This information will assist in the purchase of a chair which is most suited to the needs of the intended user or users.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Mobile shower/toilet chairs

1 SCOPE This Standard specifies requirements for materials, construction, performance, and labelling for wheeled chairs which are intended for use over a conventional WC pan and with a removable commode pan, and which are also intended for use in a shower.

NOTES:

- 1 This Standard does not cover the use of chairs in swimming pools or other highly corrosive environments.
- 2 Appendix A gives details of information to be requested by the manufacturer/retailer from the purchaser at the time of enquiry or order.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

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| 1180 | Methods of test for hose made from elastomeric materials |
| 1180.9A | Method 9A: Hardness of vulcanized rubbers of standard hardness (35 to 85 IRHD) |
| 1192 | Electroplated coatings—Nickel and chromium |
| 1428 | Design for access and mobility |
| 1428.1 | Part 1: General requirements for access—Buildings |
| 1580 | Methods of test for paint and related materials |
| 1580.408.4 | Method 408.4: Adhesion (cross-cut) |
| 1647 | Children's toys—Safety requirements |
| 1647.3 | Part 3: Toxicological requirements |
| 2088 | Prams and strollers—Safety requirements |
| 2281 | Flexible cellular polyurethane for seat cushioning and bedding |
| 2282 | Methods for testing flexible cellular polyurethane |
| 2282.3 | Part 3: Determination of apparent density of flexible cellular polyurethane |
| 2282.8 | Part 8: Determination of force deflection |
| 2331 | Methods of test for metallic and related coatings |
| 2331.3.1 | Method 3.1: Corrosion and related property tests—Neutral salt spray (NSS) test |
| 3696 | Wheelchairs |
| 3696.1 | Part 1: Determination of static stability |
| 3696.3 | Part 3: Determination of efficiency of brakes |
| 3696.5 | Part 5: Overall dimensions, mass and turning space |
| 3744 | Furniture—Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture |
| 3744.1 | Part 1: Ignition source—Smouldering cigarette |
| 3744.2 | Part 2: Ignition source—Match-flame equivalent |

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| 7176-11.2 | Wheelchairs—Test dummies |
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ISO/DP

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| 7176-7 | Wheelchairs—Seating dimensions |
| 7176-8 | Wheelchairs—Determination of static strength and impact strength |

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| 1615 | Method for specifying anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium and its alloys |
| 4322 | Recommendations for buffering on hospital vehicles such as trolleys |

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

3.1 Back support—the flexible part of the chair attached to the backrest support frame.

3.2 Backrest support frame—the part of the chair frame which holds the back support and which may also incorporate a push handle or push handles.

3.3 Buffering device—an attachment made from a soft material and which is attached to a chair to protect other objects from damage.

3.4 Castor—a generic term for a swivel castor or a fixed castor including any attachment, of the following types:

- (a) *Fixed castor*—a castor which cannot swivel about its vertical axis.

NOTE: Fixed castors are also known as 'fixed wheel brackets', 'rigid castors', 'stationary castors', and 'non-swivel castors'.

- (b) *Swivel castor*—a castor which is free to swivel without restriction about its vertical axis.

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