

Australian Standard™

## Measurement of water flow in open channels

### Part 2.5: General—Guidelines for the selection of flow-gauging structures

[ISO title: Hydrometric determinations—Flow measurements in open channels using structures—Guidelines for selection of structure]



Standards Australia

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CE-024, Measurement of Water Flow in Open Channels and Closed Conduits. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 September 2000 and published on 12 March 2001.

---

The following interests are represented on Committee CE-024:

Australian Water and Wastewater Association  
Department of Natural Resources, Qld  
Institute of Instrumentation and Control Australia  
Department of Land and Water Conservation, New South Wales  
Department of Public Works and Services, New South Wales  
South Australian Water Corporation  
Sydney Water Corporation  
University of New South Wales  
University of Adelaide  
University of Technology, Sydney

---

#### **Keeping Standards up-to-date**

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Australia website at [www.standards.com.au](http://www.standards.com.au) and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

Alternatively, the printed Catalogue provides information current at 1 January each year, and the monthly magazine, *The Australian Standard*, has a full listing of revisions and amendments published each month.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at [mail@standards.com.au](mailto:mail@standards.com.au), or write to the Chief Executive, Standards Australia International Ltd, GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001.

---

Australian Standard™

**Measurement of water flow in open channels**

**Part 2.5: General—Guidelines for the selection of flow-gauging structures**

Originated as AS 3778.2.5—1991.  
Second edition 2001.

**COPYRIGHT**

© Standards Australia International

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher.

Published by Standards Australia International Ltd  
GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 3630 0

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CE-024, Measurement of Water Flow in Open Channels and Closed Conduits.

This Standard is identical to and is reproduced from ISO 8368:1999, *Hydrometric determination—Flow measurements in open channels using structures—Guidelines for selection of structure*.

This Standard is Part 2.5 of AS 3778, *Measurement of water flow in open channels*, which is published in parts as follows:

### AS

3778		Measurement of water flow in open channels
3778.1	Part 1:	Vocabulary and symbols
3778.2	Part 2:	General
3778.2.1	Part 2.1:	Guidelines for the selection of methods of measurement
3778.2.2	Part 2.2:	Establishment and operation of a gauging station
3778.2.3	Part 2.3:	Determination of the stage-discharge relation
3778.2.4	Part 2.4:	Estimation of uncertainty of a flow-rate measurement
3778.2.5	Part 2.5:	Guidelines for the selection of flow gauging structures (this Standard)
3778.3	Part 3:	Velocity-area method
3778.3.1	Part 3.1:	Measurement by current meters and floats
3778.3.2	Part 3.2:	Measurement by moving boat method
3778.3.3	Part 3.3:	Measurement by slope-area method
3778.3.4	Part 3.4:	Collection and processing of data for determination of errors in measurement
3778.3.5	Part 3.5:	Investigation of total error
3778.3.6	Part 3.6:	Measurement of flow in tidal channels
3778.3.7	Part 3.7:	Measurement by ultrasonic (acoustic) method
3778.3.8	Part 3.8:	Electromagnetic method using a full-channel-width coil
3778.4	Part 4:	Measurement using flow gauging structures
3778.4.1	Part 4.1:	Thin-plate weirs
3778.4.2	Part 4.2:	Rectangular broad-crested weirs
3778.4.3	Part 4.3:	Round-nose horizontal broad-crested weirs
3778.4.4	Part 4.4:	V-shaped broad-crested weirs
3778.4.5	Part 4.5:	Triangular profile weirs
3778.4.6	Part 4.6:	Flat-V weirs
3778.4.7	Part 4.7:	Rectangular, trapezoidal and U-shaped flumes
3778.4.8	Part 4.8:	Trapezoidal profile weirs
3778.4.9	Part 4.9:	Small and Saniiri flumes
3778.4.10	Part 4.10:	End-depth method for estimation of flow in rectangular channels with a free overfall
3778.4.11	Part 4.11:	End-depth method for estimation of flow in rectangular channels with a free overfall (approximate method)
3778.5	Part 5:	Dilution method
3778.5.1	Part 5.1:	Constant-rate injection method for the measurement of steady flow
3778.5.2	Part 5.2:	Integration method for the measurement of steady flow
3778.6	Part 6:	Measuring devices, instruments and equipment
3778.6.1	Part 6.1:	Rotating element current-meters
3778.6.2	Part 6.2:	Direct depth sounding and suspension equipment
3778.6.3	Part 6.3:	Calibration of rotating element current meters in straight open tanks
3778.6.4	Part 6.4:	Echo sounders for water depth measurements
3778.6.5	Part 6.5:	Water level measuring devices
3778.6.6	Part 6.6:	Cableway system for stream gauging
3778.6.7	Part 6.7:	Ultrasonic (acoustic) velocity meters
3778.6.8	Part 6.8:	Position fixing equipment for hydrometric boats

Under arrangements made between Standards Australia and the international Standards bodies, ISO and IEC, as well as certain other Standards organisations, users of this Australian Standard are advised of the following:

- (a) Copyright is vested in Standards Australia.
- (b) The number of this Standard is not reproduced on each page, its identity is shown only on the cover and title pages.
- (c) In the source text 'this standard' should read 'this Australian Standard'.
- (d) Where the word 'fluid' appears, it should read 'water'.
- (e) A full point should be substituted for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

References to International Standards should be replaced by references to equivalent Australian

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>		<i>Australian Standard</i>	
ISO		AS	
		3778	Measurement of water flow in open channels
772	Liquid flow measurement in open channels—Vocabulary and symbols	3778.1	Part 1: Vocabulary and symbols
1438	Water flow measurement in open channels using weirs and venturi flumes	3778.4.1	Part 4: Measurement using flow gauging structures
1438-1	Part 1: Thin-plate weirs		Method 4.1: Thin-plate weirs
3846	Liquid flow measurement in open channels by weirs and flumes — Rectangular broad-crested weirs	3778.4.2	Part 4.2: Measurement using flow gauging structures — Rectangular broad-crested weirs
4374	Liquid flow measurement in open channels — Round-nose horizontal broad-crested weirs	3778.4.3	Part 4.3: Measurement using flow gauging structures — Round-nose horizontal broad-crested weirs
4360	Liquid flow measurement in open channels by weirs and flumes — Triangular profile weirs	3778.4.5	Part 4: Measurement using flow gauging structures — Round-nose horizontal broad-crested weirs
4377	Liquid flow measurement in open channels — Flat-V weirs	3778.4.6	Part 4: Measurement using flow gauging structures — Flat-V weirs
4359	Liquid flow measurement in open channels — Rectangular, trapezoidal and U-shaped flumes	3778.4.7	Part 4: Measurement using flow gauging structures — Rectangular, trapezoidal and U-shaped flumes
3847	Liquid flow measurement in open channels by weirs and flumes — End-depth method for estimation of flow in rectangular channels with a free overfall	3778.4.10	Part 4.10: Measurement using flow gauging structures — End-depth method for estimation of flow in rectangular channels with a free overfall

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 Scope .....	1
2 Normative references .....	1
3 Terms, definitions and symbols .....	2
4 Types of structure.....	
5 Factors affecting choice .....	3
5.1 General.....	3
5.2 Purpose.....	3
5.3 Range of flow .....	3
5.4 Afflux.....	3
5.5 Size and nature of channel .....	6
5.6 Channel slope and sediment load.....	6
5.7 Operation and maintenance .....	6
5.8 Passage of fish.....	6
5.9 Cost .....	7
6 Recommendations.....	7
6.1 Thin-plate weirs.....	7
6.2 Broad-crested weirs .....	7
6.3 Triangular-profile weirs .....	8
6.4 Streamlined triangular-profile weirs.....	8
6.5 Flat-V weirs.....	8
6.6 Compound gauging structures .....	8
6.7 Trapezoidal-profile weirs .....	8
6.8 Vertical underflow gates and radial gates.....	9
6.9 End-depth method .....	9
6.10 Flumes .....	9
7 Parameters governing choice of structures .....	9

## AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**Measurement of water flow in open channels****Part 2.5:****General— Guidelines for the selection of flow gauging structures****1 Scope**

This International Standard gives guidelines for selection of a particular type of flow-gauging structure for measurement of liquid flow in open channels. It sets out the factors, and summarizes the parameters which may influence such a selection.

NOTE In general, a flow-gauging structure is used when high accuracy is required for continuous records of flow.

**2 Normative references**

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents listed below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 772, *Hydrometric determinations — Vocabulary and symbols*

ISO 1438-1, *Water flow measurement in open channels using weirs and Venturi flumes — Part 1: Thin-plate weirs.*

ISO 3846, *Liquid flow measurement in open channels by weirs and flumes — Rectangular broad-crested weirs.*

ISO 3847, *Liquid flow measurement in open channels by weirs and flumes — End-depth method for estimation of flow in rectangular channels with a free overfall.*

ISO 4359, *Liquid flow measurement in open channels — Rectangular, trapezoidal and U-shaped flumes.*

ISO 4360, *Liquid flow measurement in open channels by weirs and flumes — Triangular-profile weirs.*

ISO 4362, *Measurement of liquid flow in open channels — Trapezoidal profile weirs.*

ISO 4371, *Measurement of liquid flow in open channels by weirs and flumes — End depth method for estimation of flow in non-rectangular channels with a free overfall (approximate method).*

ISO 4374, *Liquid flow measurement in open channels — Round-nose horizontal broad-crested weirs.*

ISO 4377, *Liquid flow measurement in open channels — Flat-V weirs.*

ISO 8033, *Liquid flow measurement in open channels by weirs and flumes — V-shaped broad-crested weirs.*

ISO 9026:1992, *Measurement of liquid flow in open channels — Parshall and SANIIRI flumes.*

ISO 9827, *Measurement of liquid flow in open channels by weirs and flumes — Streamlined triangular-profile weirs.*

ISO 13550, *Hydrometric determinations — Flow measurements in open channels using structures — Use of vertical underflow gates and radial gates.*

ISO 14139, *Hydrometric determinations — Flow measurements in open channels using structures — Compound gauging structures.*