

Australian Standard™

**Caravan and light trailer towing
components**

**Part 4: Safety chains up to 3500 kg
capacity**

STANDARDS
Australia



This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME-052, Caravan and Light Trailer Components. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 4 May 2004.

This Standard was published on 17 June 2004.

The following are represented on Committee ME-052:

Australian Automobile Association
Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Industry Group
Caravan Industry Australia
Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services
Consumers' Federation of Australia
Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries
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**Part 4: Safety chains up to 3500 kg
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Originally as AS D25—1972.
Previous edition AS 4177.4—1994.
Second edition 2004.
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (April 2006).

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Published by Standards Australia GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 6064 3

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by Standards Australia Committee ME-052, Caravans and Light Trailer Components to supersede AS 4177.4—1994, *Caravan and light trailer towing components, Part 4: Safety chains up to 3500 kg capacity*.

This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (April 2006). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.

This Standard is Part 4 of AS 4177, *Caravan and light trailer towing components*, which is published in Parts as follows:

- Part 1: Towbars and towing brackets
- Part 2: 50 mm towballs
- Part 3: Coupling body for ball couplings
- Part 4: Safety chains up to 3500 kg capacity (this Standard)
- Part 5: Electrical connectors

The objective of this Standard is to provide the manufacturers and users, the designation and design requirements for safety chains for use with trailers and caravans of up to 3.5 t aggregate trailer mass, for use on public roads.

In this revision, two different size characters for marking are included.

The term 'normative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
Caravan and light trailer towing components**Part 4 Safety chains up to 3500 kg capacity****1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies requirements for safety chains for use with trailers and caravans of up to 3.5 t aggregate trailer mass. The safety chains are designated according to their loading capacities based on the aggregate trailer mass.

A method for determining the strength of safety chain is given in Appendix A.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

1442 Carbon steels and carbon-manganese steels—Hot-rolled bars and semifinished products

2193 Calibration and classification of force-measuring systems

3 DEFINITIONS

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

3.1 Aggregate trailer mass

The total mass of the laden trailer when carrying the maximum load recommended by the manufacturer. This includes any mass imposed on the towing vehicle when the combination vehicle is resting on a horizontal supporting plane.

3.2 Batch

A quantity of some commodity produced under conditions which are considered uniform.

NOTE: Each batch is assumed, as far as practicable, to consist of materials or items of a single type, grade, class, size and composition and to have been manufactured under essentially the same condition at essentially the same time.

3.3 Elongation

The elongation at the point of fracture of a chain expressed as a percentage of the gauge length, and comprising plastic elongation and elastic elongation.

3.4 Gauge length

The portion of the tensile test sample containing the number of links for the purpose of undertaking a specified destructive test.

3.5 Proof load

The load which the chain must be able to withstand, while remaining in service.

3.6 Shall

Indicates that a statement is mandatory.