

Australian Standard[®]

Variable message signs

Part 1: Fixed signs

STANDARDS
Australia



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 - Australian Industry Group
 - AUSTROADS
 - Brisbane City Council
 - CIE Australia Inc.
 - Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure, South Australia
 - Hire and Rental Industry Association of Australia
 - IES: The Lighting Society
 - Lighting Council of Australia
 - Main Roads Department, Queensland
 - Roads and Traffic Authority of New South Wales
 - VicRoads
-

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Part 1: Fixed signs

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee LG-006 on Road Traffic Signals.

This Standard forms Part 1 of the AS 4852 series, which covers requirements for the construction and performance of electrically powered variable message signs intended for use in road traffic management.

The objective of this Standard is to specify the requirements for the design and performance of variable message signs.

The series consists of the following Standards:

AS

- 4852 Variable message signs
- 4852.1 Part 1: Fixed signs (this Standard)
- 4852.2 Part 2: Portable signs

The use of any signs, including variable message signs, for road traffic management is subject to regulation by traffic control authorities. Guidance on and requirements relating to their use are provided in the series of Standards AS 1742, *Manual on uniform traffic control devices*.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes (footnotes), tables (figures) are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

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

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Part 1: Fixed signs

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard covers electrically powered, on-road, variable message signs used for traffic management and/or driver information applications. Part 1 of the Standard covers 'Fixed Signs', where the display is mounted in a permanent position above or adjacent to the roadway. Part 2 of the Standard covers Portable Signs, where the display is mounted and deployed on a relocatable trailer.

While this Standard is based on systems that use the commonly available emitter, LED (Light Emitting Diodes), as the display source, the general criteria for driver observation, sign functionality and structural and operational integrity of the associated hardware are relevant for other forms of variable message signs. Relevant parts of this Standard can be applied to non-LED variable message signs. The Standard is not intended to exclude the use or development of alternative display sources.

It specifies the requirements for the design, construction, performance and certain aspects of the installation of electrically powered variable message signs, including their associated control systems.

The following types of message signs are not included within the scope of this Standard:

- (a) Information signs at bus stops or train stations etc.
- (b) Variable message signs intended to advertise products and services to road users.
- (c) Signs that are only capable of displaying either a single message or a blank face.

1.2 APPLICATION

It is intended that variable message signs complying with this Standard be used to provide traffic-related information to motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. This includes real-time traffic information relating to incidents, roadworks and traffic times.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

1657	Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders—Design, construction and installation
1742	Manual of uniform traffic control devices
1743	Road signs—Specifications
1744	Forms of letters and numerals for road signs (known as Standard alphabets for road signs)
2700	Colour Standards for general purposes