

AS 5340:2020



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Livestock loading/unloading ramps and forcing pens

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AS 5340:2020

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- Australian Industry Group
- Australian Livestock & Property Agents Association
- Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters Association
- Australian Livestock Markets Association
- Australian Lot Feeders Association
- Australian Meat Industry Council
- Australian Trucking Association
- Cattle Council of Australia
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- Victorian Farmers Federation

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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee SF-054, Safe Design of Livestock Ramps and Forcing Pens.

The objective of this Standard is to ensure the safety of personnel and livestock through separation of livestock and livestock handlers, and by the design, construction, maintenance, and use of forcing pens, and ramps.

This Standard reproduces content from *Guide for Safe Design of Livestock Loading Ramps and Forcing Yards*, June 2015, with permission of the Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters Association.

This Standard is not intended to discourage innovation. The use of alternative materials, designs, methods of assembly and procedures that either do not conform to the specific requirements of the Standard or are not mentioned in it, are not precluded, provided equivalent performance is demonstrated.

Illustrations in this Standard are provided as examples and are not intended to illustrate a particular design principle.

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Foreword

This Standard deals with the movement of livestock and the facilities used from the time livestock are drafted into forcing pens, traverse a loading ramp and enter a transport vehicle (or vice versa).

Australian Standards are voluntary. They do not include contractual, legal or statutory requirements. Voluntary Standards do not replace laws, with which standards users are understood to comply and which take precedence over the requirements of this Standard.

Users of this Standard are reminded that it has no legal authority in its own right, but may acquire legal standing in one or more of the following circumstances:

- (a) Adoption by a government or other authority having jurisdiction.
- (b) Adoption by a purchaser as the required standard of construction in a contract between parties.
- (c) Adoption where a manufacturer states that a forcing pen or ramp is in accordance with this Standard.

NOTES

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Australian Standard®

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Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This Standard sets out requirements for loading/unloading ramps and forcing pens to enable persons to safely load and unload livestock from vehicles used to transport them, and ensure the welfare of livestock and the safety of livestock handlers. It covers —

- (a) stock yard panels;
- (b) gates;
- (c) latches;
- (d) surfaces;
- (e) sheeting;
- (f) walkways and access;
- (g) structural elements; and
- (h) vehicle access.

It includes examples of ramp design and infill positioning, and guidelines for risk management.

The Standard applies to rear, side and cross-loading ramps.

The Standard does not cover any other forms of livestock yards.

The Standard does not refer to work on or in livestock crates.

1.2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document:

NOTE Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS 1319, *Safety signs for the occupational environment*

AS 1379, *Specification and supply of concrete*

AS 1418.2, *Cranes (including hoists and winches), Part 2: Serial hoists and winches*

AS 1450, *Steel tubes for mechanical purposes*

AS 1657:2018, *Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders—Design, construction and installation*

AS/NZS 1163, *Cold-formed structural steel hollow sections*

AS/NZS 1554.1, *Structural steel welding, Part 1: Welding of steel structures*

AS/NZS 1594, *Hot-rolled steel flat products*

AS/NZS 1665, *Welding of aluminium structures*

AS/NZS 3678, *Structural steel—Hot-rolled plates, floorplates and slabs*

AS/NZS 3679.1, *Structural steel, Part 1: Hot-rolled bars and sections*