

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Approval and test specification—Plugs,  
socket-outlets and couplers for general  
industrial applications.**



## **AS/NZS 3123:2005**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 10 December 2004 and by the New Zealand Standards Approval Board on 17 December 2004.  
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The following are represented on Committee EL-004:

Australasian Railway Association  
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association  
Canterbury Manufacturers Association, New Zealand  
Consumer Electronic Suppliers Association  
Consumers' Federation of Australia  
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industrial applications**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories, to supersede AS/NZS 3123:2000.

*This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (July 2020). 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 one of a series of approval and test specifications issued by Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand. These specifications are to be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100, *Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment*. The purpose of these specifications is to outline the conditions to be met to secure approval for the sale and use of electrical equipment. Only safety matters and related conditions are covered.

A1 | AS/NZS 3123:2005 will remain current for 24 months from the date of publication of this document. After this time, it will be superseded by AS/NZS 3123:2005 incorporating Amendment No. 1. Regulatory authorities that reference this Standard in regulation may apply these requirements at a different time. Users of this Standard should consult with these authorities to confirm their requirements.

This Standard is based on the principles, but not the format, of the IEC 60309, *Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes series*. In this Standard, only standardized Australian and New Zealand configurations for operation at 50 Hz are included. In this respect, the Standard differs significantly from the IEC 60309 series in that the configurations of IEC 60309-2 *Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes Part 2: Dimensional interchangeability requirements for pin and contact-tube accessories* are omitted.

While this Standard depicts only standardized Australian and New Zealand configurations, it can be applied to configurations and contact types other than those depicted herein, providing all appropriate requirements of this Standard are complied with.

The essential safety requirements in AS/NZS 3820 that could be applicable to plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for general industrial application are covered by this Standard taken in conjunction with any other relevant requirements affecting safety.

This Standard was revised to introduce the following technical and editorial changes—

- (a) changes to fitness requirements; and
- (b) updating of cross-references to referred Standards and other minor editorial changes.

In this Standard, the requirements proper appear in ‘roman’ type and the test requirements appear in ‘italic’ type. Explanatory matters are contained in notes to the clauses, in smaller size ‘roman’ type.

This Standard does not contain all the necessary conditions of a contract.

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE AND REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.....	4
2 DEFINITIONS.....	5
3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	7
4 GENERAL NOTES ON TESTS.....	7
5 RATING.....	7
6 CLASSIFICATION.....	8
7 MARKING.....	8
8 DIMENSIONS.....	11
9 PROTECTION AGAINST ELECTRIC SHOCK.....	12
10 PROVISION FOR EARTHING.....	13
11 TERMINALS.....	13
12 INTERLOCKS, RETAINING DEVICES AND SWITCHES.....	15
13 RESISTANCE TO ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION.....	15
14 GENERAL CONSTRUCTION.....	16
15 CONSTRUCTION OF SOCKET-OUTLETS.....	16
16 CONSTRUCTION OF PLUGS AND CONNECTORS.....	19
17 CONSTRUCTION OF APPLIANCE INLETS.....	20
18 IP DESIGNATION.....	20
19 INSULATION RESISTANCE AND ELECTRIC STRENGTH.....	21
20 BREAKING CAPACITY.....	21
21 MECHANICAL ENDURANCE.....	22
22 TEMPERATURE RISE.....	23
23 FLEXIBLE CABLES AND CORDS AND THEIR CONNECTION.....	24
24 MECHANICAL STRENGTH.....	27
25 SCREWS, CURRENT-CARRYING PARTS AND CONNECTIONS.....	28
26 CREEPAGE DISTANCES, CLEARANCES AND DISTANCES THROUGH SEALING COMPOUND.....	31
27 RESISTANCE TO HEAT, FIRE AND TRACKING.....	32
28 RESISTANCE TO RUSTING.....	33

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

**Australian/New Zealand Standard****Approval and test specification—Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for general industrial application****1 SCOPE AND REFERENCED DOCUMENTS****1.1 Scope**

This Standard sets out the requirements for plugs and socket-outlets, cable couplers and appliance couplers for operation at 50 Hz, with a rated voltage not exceeding 660 V and rated current not exceeding 315 A, primarily intended for general industrial use, either indoors or outdoors.

## NOTES:

- 1 This Standard applies to plugs and socket-outlets, cable couplers and appliance couplers (referred to in this Standard as ‘accessories’) for use when the ambient temperature does not normally exceed 40°C.
- 2 The use of accessories (see Note 1) in building sites and in agricultural, commercial and domestic situations is not precluded.
- 3 Appliance inlets incorporated in, or fixed to, electrical equipment are within the scope of this Standard.
- 4 This Standard does not apply to accessories that comply with AS/NZS 60320.1 and AS/NZS 3112 and which are primarily intended for domestic and similar general purposes, nor to accessories that comply with AS 2380.1 and are intended for explosive atmospheres.
- 5 The configurations shown in this Standard depict standardized Australian and New Zealand industrial plugs, socket-outlets, cable couplers and appliance couplers for operation at 50 Hz.
- 6 This Standard may be applied to configurations and contact types other than those depicted herein, providing all appropriate (to that type) requirements of this Standard are complied with.
- 7 Devices that comply with IEC 60309-1 are deemed to comply with the appropriate requirements of this Standard.

**1.2 Referenced documents**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
2380	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres—Explosion-protection techniques
2380.1	Part 1: General requirements
60529	Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)
AS/NZS	
3100	Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment
3112	Approval and test specification—Plugs and socket-outlets
3133	Approval and test specification— Air break switches
3191	Electric flexible cords
3947	Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear
3947.3	Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units