



Introduction;

This information bulletin applies to light motor vehicles modified with wheelchair ramps requiring certification to Vehicle Standards Bulletin 6 code R2, Wheelchair loader installation.

Background;

Compliance with code R2 requires the installation of wheelchair ramp/s to comply with the current Australian Standard AS3856.2:2021. This edition was published on 30 April 2021 and requires the ramp to comply with a 1 in 6 gradient.

The 2021 edition did not include the option for a 1 in 4 gradient where 1 in 6 was not practical.

When applied to light vehicles, the change has affected the vehicles suitable for modification to wheelchair accessibility, existing designs and product availability.

Standards Australia have been requested to review this requirement and reinstate the 1 in 4 gradient option.

Action;

- Where AS3856.2:2021 is the version of the Australian Standard current at the time of the vehicle's modification, an Approved Vehicle Certifier (AVC) may - until 1 July 2024 – certify a light vehicle (under the R2 VSB6 code) where the gradient of the deployed vehicle mounted ramp is no steeper than 1 in 4.
- All other requirements of AS3856.2:2021 apply.
- After 1 July 2024 – an AVC must only certify a vehicle where the gradient of the deployed vehicle mounted ramp is no steeper than the gradient specified in the version of AS3856 current at the time of the vehicle's modification and in compliance with VSB6 code R2.

Questions?

Any further questions regarding this Special Information Bulletin should be directed to Vehicle Standards Unit via vehicle.standards@stategrowth.tas.gov.au or ph. 6166 3263.