AS 2550.16:2026

Australian STANDARD®

STANDARDS Australia

Cranes — Safe use

Part 16: Mast climbing work platforms



Share your feedback about this standard.
Scan the QR code on your phone or click/ enter the link to take the survey
feedback.standards.org.au/2550.16:2026

AS 2550.16:2026

This Australian Standard® was prepared by ME-005, Cranes. It was approved on behalf of Standards Australia's Standards Development and Accreditation Committee on 17 April 2026.

This Standard was published on 8 May 2026.

The following are represented on Committee ME-005:

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Industry Group
Australian Institute for Non-Destructive Testing
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia
Elevating Work Platform Association of Australia
Engineers Australia
National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
Office of Industrial Relations (QLD)
SafeWork NSW Agency
The Crane Industry Council of Australia
Transport for NSW
Victorian WorkCover Authority (WorkSafe Victoria)
WorkSafe Division - Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS) WA

This Standard was issued for comment as DR AS 2550.16:2025

Status of this document

Standards Australia publications are periodically reviewed to ensure their ongoing relevance and accuracy. This document may be withdrawn, revised, or superseded at any time. To verify this document's current status, visit:

www.standards.org.au

ISBN: 978 1 76175 722 8

Australian Standard®

Cranes — Safe use

Part 16: Mast climbing work platforms

First published as AS 2550.16-1997.
Second edition 2026.

© Standards Australia Limited 2026

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth).

Users must not use the content in this publication in combination with artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any purpose, unless they have the express prior written consent from Standards Australia.

How to read this Standard

This page explains the meaning of the language and structure of this Standard.

Refer to Standards Australia's Standardisation Guide 006 for more details about drafting rules.

Australian and Australian/New Zealand Standards are voluntary unless they are referenced in legislation or called up in contracts.

Requirements

To conform to a Standard, all requirements in the Standard need to be met.

A requirement is any statement in the Standard which uses the word "shall".

Recommendations, permissions and possibilities

The following words are commonly used in Standards, but statements using them do not have to be followed to conform to the Standard:

(a) "should" means that something is recommended.

(b) "may" means that something is permitted.

(c) "can" means that something is possible.

Structure of Standards

A Standard always has the following parts:

(i) The Preface states who developed the Standard, what the Standard is aiming to do, and how it relates to other documents.

(ii) The Scope states what the Standard is about, what it covers and what it does not cover.

(iii) The Normative references clause lists other documents that are referenced in the Standard as part of requirements.

(iv) The Terms and definitions clause defines important terms to help with understanding the Standard.

A Standard may also include other parts, such as the following:

(1) A normative appendix sets additional requirements that need to be conformed to.

(2) An informative appendix provides additional information or guidance. They usually do not contain requirements. If an informative appendix does contain requirements, the Standard will explain when those requirements apply.

(3) A Bibliography lists documents referenced in the Standard but not as part of requirements.

Many Standards include notes. Notes provide recommendations and/or guidance only. They never contain requirements.

Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-005, Cranes, to supersede AS 2550.16-1997, *Cranes – Safe use, Part 16: Mast climbing work platforms* and to cover specific requirements for the safe use of mast climbing work platforms. It is intended for use in conjunction with AS 2550.1:2011, *Cranes—Safe use, Part 1: General requirements*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this document as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this document is to provide requirements for the selection, supply, erection, alteration, dismantling, commissioning, maintenance, inspection and safe use of mast climbing work platforms and auxiliary equipment.

The AS 2550 series of Standards provides uniform requirements and guidance for the safe use of cranes, including mast climbing work platforms, hoists and winches.

A list of all parts in the AS 2550 series can be found in the Standards Australia online catalogue.

These documents have no legal authority in their own right but may be —

(a) adopted into legislation;

(b) called up in legislation as codes of practice;

(c) referenced as a contractual requirement; and

(d) recognized as “available information” or as the “state of knowledge” of the industry.

Australia’s workplace health and safety legislation requires adherence to the principles of eliminating hazards and managing risks.

© Standards Australia Limited 2026

Contents

Page

Preface ..... **v**

Section 1 Scope and general **1**
1.1 Scope 1
1.2 Application 1
1.3 New designs and innovations 1
1.4 Normative references 1
1.5 Terms and definitions 1

Section 2 Planning **4**
2.1 Matters to be considered when planning 4
2.1.1 General 4
2.1.2 Site-specific factors 4
2.1.3 Selection and configuration 4

Section 3 Preparation to install **6**
3.1 General 6
3.2 Wind 6
3.2.1 General 6
3.2.2 In-service wind conditions 6
3.2.3 Out of service wind conditions 6
3.3 Hazards in the vicinity 6
3.4 Environmental factors 6
3.5 Configuration and installation design of the MCWP 7
3.6 Foundations 7
3.7 Building ties 8
3.8 Stability 8
3.9 Safety gear 8
3.9.1 General 8
3.9.2 Safety gear certification 8
3.10 Protection at base 8
3.10.1 General 8
3.10.2 Public places 9
3.11 Fall prevention and prevention of falling objects 9
3.11.1 Edge protection 9
3.11.2 Omission of guard rails 9
3.12 Builders' hoists and MCWPs 10
3.13 Auxiliary equipment 10
3.14 Material restraint 10
3.15 Transfer 10
3.16 Access and egress 11
3.17 Rated capacity diagram 11
3.18 Emergency evacuation 11
3.18.1 Evacuation plans 11
3.18.2 Overspeed safety devices 11
3.18.3 Manual lowering procedure 11
3.18.4 Crane rescue 12
3.18.5 Rope access 12
3.18.6 Training 12

Section 4 Supplied information **13**
4.1 General 13
4.2 Equipment limitations 13
4.3 Auxiliary equipment 13

Section 5 Out of service operation **14**
5.1 General 14
5.2 Multiple platform MCWPs 14
5.3 Busbar installation 14

© Standards Australia Limited 2026

5.4 Installation of mast sections ... 15
5.5 Limit switch repositioning ... 15
5.6 Trailing cable care ... 15
5.7 Access under the MCWP ... 15

Section 6 In service operation ... 16
6.1 General ... 16
6.2 Load distribution ... 16
6.3 MCWP control in high wind ... 16

Section 7 Auxiliary equipment ... 18
7.1 General ... 18
7.2 Rated capacity reduction ... 18
7.3 Interlocking ... 18
7.4 Maintenance, inspection, testing and repair of auxiliary equipment ... 19
7.5 Types of auxiliary equipment ... 19

Section 8 Personnel competency ... 21
8.1 Operator ... 21
8.2 Rigger ... 21
8.3 Service technician ... 21

Section 9 Maintenance, inspection, testing and repair ... 22
9.1 General ... 22
9.2 Pre-installation (pre-hire) inspections ... 22
9.3 Commissioning ... 22
9.3.1 General requirements ... 22
9.3.2 Testing and checks at commissioning ... 23
9.3.3 Requirements for tests completed prior to delivery ... 23
9.3.4 Testing checklists ... 23
9.3.5 Function tests ... 24
9.3.6 Installation and commissioning checks ... 24
9.3.7 Brake test ... 24
9.3.8 Rated load test ... 24
9.3.9 Overspeed (drop) test ... 25
9.3.10 Handover certificates ... 25
9.4 Height increase ... 25
9.5 Pre-operational (daily) inspection ... 26
9.6 Routine maintenance and inspections ... 26
9.6.1 General ... 26
9.6.2 Routine maintenance and inspections ... 27
9.6.3 Annual maintenance and inspections ... 27
9.7 Major inspections ... 28
9.7.1 General ... 28
9.7.2 Inspection type 1 ... 28
9.7.3 Inspection type 2 ... 29
9.7.4 Inspection type 3 ... 29
9.7.5 Inspection type 4 ... 29
9.7.6 Frequency of major inspections ... 29
9.8 Safety gear inspection and recertification ... 30
9.9 Logbook ... 31

Appendix A (informative) **Hazards ... 32**

Appendix B (informative) **Site inspection checklist ... 34**

Appendix C (informative) **Handover certificate ... 38**

Appendix D (informative) **Record of training ... 39**

Appendix E (informative) **Operating instructions ... 40**

Appendix F (informative) **Logbook format ... 42**

© Standards Australia Limited 2026

Appendix G (informative) **Inspection and test format** **44**
Bibliography **48**

© Standards Australia Limited 2026

Australian Standard®

Cranes — Safe use

Part 16: Mast climbing work platforms

Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document provides requirements for the selection, supply, erection, alteration, dismantling, commissioning, maintenance, inspection and safe use of mast climbing work platforms and auxiliary equipment.

1.2 Application

This document applies to the safe use of equipment that falls within the scope of AS 1418.16.

1.3 New designs and innovations

This document does not prevent the use of materials, methods of assembly, procedures and the like that do not conform with the specific requirements of this document, or are not mentioned in it, provided the minimum dimensional and performance requirements specified herein are met.

1.4 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.

AS 1418.16, *Cranes, hoists and winches, Part 16: Mast climbing work platforms (ISO 16369:2007, MOD)*

AS 2549, *Cranes, hoists and winches—Glossary of terms*

AS 2550.1, *Cranes—Safe use, Part 1: General requirements*

1.5 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the definitions given in AS 2549, AS 2550.1, AS 1418.16 and those below apply.

1.5.1
auxiliary equipment

1.5.1.1
auxiliary equipment, on board
attached auxiliaries
equipment that is located on and/or directly attached to the mast climbing work platform (MCWP)

Note 1 to entry: The mass of these equipment should be deducted from the rated capacity.

1.5.1.2
auxiliary equipment, external
external auxiliaries
equipment not located on nor directly attached to the MCWP, but used in conjunction with the MCWP

Note 1 to entry: The mass of the equipment need not be reduced from the rated capacity. This will only present a collision hazard.

© Standards Australia Limited 2026