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Independent Slip Testing Services

GLOBAL PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION

TEST RESULTS INTERPRETATION GUIDE (AUSTRALIA)

Appendix A
Wet Pendulum Testing

Appendix B
Dry Friction Testing

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SLIP RESISTANCE MEASUREMENT RESULTS INTERPRETATION GUIDE

Thank you for engaging Independent Slip Testing Services.

This guide is designed to assist in interpreting your slip resistance measurement results.

Presented in each guide are the slip resistance classifications to achieve for specific locations as per the Australian Standards handbook HB 198:2014.

Wet pendulum, and Dry Floor Friction testing guides for National Construction Code and Other applications are presented.

ISTS Test report formats are designed to meet all requirements of the current Australian Standards, while meeting all NATA accreditation guidelines and directives.

If you would like additional personalised guidance in the interpretation of your test reports, our team is always available to assist...our contact details are listed below...

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ISTS continually revisits test reporting formats and opportunities to make interpretation as simple and clear as possible, as Australian Standards are revised and as NATA accreditation requirements allow.

Any suggestions and feedback is welcomed, and our team is always available to help wherever we can.

Thanks again, Have a successful day!
The ISTS team.



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WET TEST RESULTS INTERPRETATION GUIDE (Part 1)- NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CODE (AUSTRALIA)

INTERPRETING WET TEST RESULTS

How to interpret your wet test report...

Wet test results offer six possible outcomes- classification 'P0', 'P1', 'P2', 'P3', 'P4' or 'P5'.

The classification 'P0' reflects a lesser slip resistant surface, while 'P5' classification reflects the greatest slip resistance classification.

There are two parts to this interpretation guide- Firstly the 'National Construction Code requirements', and secondly 'Other Particular Applications' recommendations.

For the 'Global Product Classification' test results refer additional #Note below.

- Step 1.** Note the test location described in the left side column of your report, and the corresponding BPN (British Pendulum Number) test result achieved (listed in the far right side column)
 - Step 2.** From this interpretation guide, identify the most appropriately related location description described in either 'TABLE 3A' (Part 1) or 'TABLE 3B' (Part 2) . Note the 'P' classification listed to the right of this description.
 - Step 3.** If the test result classification listed meets (or exceeds) the related 'P' classification from 'TABLE 3A' or 'TABLE 3B', the test surface is meeting the relevant requirement.
- #Note.** For 'Global Product Classification' test reports the 'TABLE 3A' or 'TABLE 3B' descriptions assist in identifying the product's suitability for various applications.

NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CODE COMPLIANCE CLASSIFICATIONS

* TABLE 3A

Minimum wet pendulum test result classifications to meet
 National Construction Code requirements.

Location	Classification
Stair Treads and Stairway Landings in Buildings - Covered by NCC Volumes 1 - 2	
1. Stair treads and a stairway landing (when dry)	P3
2. Stair treads and a stairway landing (when wet)	P4
Nosings for Stair Treads and Landings in Buildings - Covered by NCC Volumes 1 - 2	
1. Dry stair tread, a stair non-skid nosing strip and a stairway landing	P3
2. Wet stair tread, a stair non-skid nosing strip and a stairway landing	P4
Ramps in Buildings - Covered by NCC Volumes 1 - 2	
1. Ramps not steeper than 1:14 (4.1 degrees) gradient (when dry)	P3
2. Ramps not steeper than 1:14 (4.1 degrees) gradient (when wet)	P4
3. Ramps steeper than 1:14 (4.1degrees) up to but not steeper than 1:8 (7.1 degrees) (when dry)	P4
4. Ramps steeper than 1:14 (4.1 degrees) up to but not steeper than 1:8 (7.1 degrees) (when wet)	P5

***TABLE 2** Classification of Pedestrian Surface Materials according to the AS 4586-2013 wet pendulum test

CLASSIFICATION	Pendulum* mean BPN	
	Four S rubber (Slider 96)	TRL rubber (Slider 55)
P5	>54	>44
P4	45-54	40-44
P3	35-44	35-39
P2	25-34	20-34
P1	12-24	< 20
P0	<12	-

TREATMENT OPTIONS

For test results that achieve a result below recommendations, the following treatment options are available to increase slip resistance and Reduce Your Risk!

While ISTS is solely an audit service, following is a short list of common types of treatments we see our clients using to improve the slip resistance of various pedestrian surface materials.

- Cleaning procedures** Minimising detergent residue build up or other contaminants.
- Acid etching** Increasing surface texture.
- Coatings and sealers** Surface coatings and penetrative types.
- Surface texture** Coatings, etchants, sandblasting, shot blasting, etc.
- Surface replacement** May be the most cost effective option in some instances.

An internet search for 'flooring treatments' will identify surface treatment professionals in your local area. ISTS recommends sourcing a number of detailed proposals when considering treatments, outlining expected slip resistance improvements, visual changes, clean ability and life expectancy.

ADDITIONAL NOTES & REFERENCES

References

*Table 3A- HB198:2014 "Guide to the specification and testing of slip resistance of pedestrian surfaces" Standards Australia Limited 2014.

*Table 2- AS 4586-2013 "Slip resistance classification of new pedestrian surface materials".

nb. The information provided is intended as a guide only, consult the referenced publications for further information in regards to measurement results and recommendations.



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WET TEST RESULTS INTERPRETATION GUIDE (Part 2)- OTHER APPLICATIONS...NON NCC (AUSTRALIA)

*** TABLE 3B** Minimum wet pendulum test result classifications for other applications where the NCC does not apply.

Location	Classification
External Pavements and Ramps	
1. External ramps including sloping driveways, footpaths etc. steeper than 1 in 14 (4.1°)	P5
2. External ramps including sloping driveways, footpaths, etc., under 1:14 (4.1°), external sales areas (eg. markets), external car park areas, external colonnades, walkways, pedestrian crossings, balconies, verandas, carports, driveways, courtyards and roof decks	P4
3. Undercover car parks	P3
Hotels, Offices, Public Buildings, Schools and Kindergartens	
1. Entries and access areas including... hotels, offices, public buildings, schools, kindergartens, internal lift lobbies and common areas of public buildings	Wet area P3 Transitional area P2 Dry area P1 (see Note 3)
2. Toilet facilities in offices, hotels and shopping centres	P3
3. Hotel apartment bathrooms, ensuites and toilets	P2
4. Hotel apartment kitchens and laundries	P2
Loading Docks, Commercial Kitchens, Cold Stores, Serving Areas	
1. Loading docks under cover and commercial kitchens	P5
2. Serving areas behind bars in public hotels and clubs, cold stores and freezers	P4
Supermarkets and Shopping Centres	
1. Fast food outlets, buffet food servery areas, food courts and fast food dining areas in shopping centres	P3
2. Shop and supermarket fresh fruit and vegetables area	P3
3. Shop entry areas with external entrances	P3
4. Supermarket aisles (except fresh food areas)	P1 (see Note 3)
5. Other separate shops inside shopping centres - wet	P3
6. Other separate shops inside shopping centres - dry	P1 (see Note 3)
Swimming Pools and Sporting Facilities	
1. Swimming pool ramps and stairs leading to water	P5
2. Swimming pool surrounds and communal shower rooms	P4
3. Communal changing rooms	P3
4. Undercover concourse areas of sports stadiums	P3
Hospitals and Aged Care Facilities	
1. Bathrooms and ensuites in hospitals and aged care facilities	P3
2. Wards and corridors in hospital and aged care facilities	P2

***TABLE 2** Classification of Pedestrian Surface Materials according to the AS 4586-2013 wet pendulum test

Classification	Pendulum* mean BPN	
	Four S rubber (Slider 96)	TRL rubber (Slider 55)
P5	>54	>44
P4	45-54	40-44
P3	35-44	35-39
P2	25-34	20-34
P1	12-24	< 20
P0	<12	-

P1 (see Note 3)

Note 3.

The minimum classification listed in Table 3B is P1. It is inappropriate for Table 3B to list the lower classification, P0, since there is no lower limit on Classification P0.

Notwithstanding, some smooth and polished floor surfaces, which do not achieve Classification P1, may be considered to provide a safe walking environment for normal pedestrians walking at a moderate pace, provided the surface is kept clean and dry; however, should these surfaces become contaminated by either wet or dry materials, or be used by pedestrians in any other manner, then they may become unsafe. Therefore, the type of maintenance, the in-service inspection of floors, other environmental conditions and use should be taken into account when selecting such products.

ADDITIONAL NOTES & REFERENCES

References

*Table 3B- HB198:2014 "Guide to the specification and testing of slip resistance of pedestrian surfaces" Standards Australia Limited 2014.

*Table 2- AS 4586-2013 "Slip resistance classification of new pedestrian surface materials".

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DRY TEST RESULTS INTERPRETATION GUIDE (AUSTRALIA)

INTERPRETING DRY TEST RESULTS

How to interpret your dry test report...

Dry test results offer two possible outcomes- classification 'D0' or classification 'D1'.

The classification 'D0' reflects a less slip resistant surface, while the recommended 'D1' classification reflects a greater slip resistant surface.

Step 1. Note the test location described in the left side column of your report, and the corresponding test result Coefficient of Friction number achieved (listed in the far right side column).

Step 2. If the test result classification listed is 'D1', the test surface is meeting the relevant recommendations.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. The mean test average is ≥ 0.40 , however the result is 'D0' classification ?

A. The mean of the test results should be equal to or greater than 0.40 and each individual result should be equal to or greater than 0.35. If either of this criteria is not met, the lot shall be considered to be 'D0' classification.

2. What does * and ** mean?

A. * Indicates part of a test run registered under 0.40.

** Indicates part of a test run registered less than 0.35 resulting in a compulsory 'D0' classification.

3. Why are test results rounded to the nearest 0.05?

A. As described in the relevant standards, the mean result of Test 1 & Test 2 is rounded to nearest 0.05.

4. What is the classification requirement for particular locations as stated in publication #HB198:2014?

A. The Australian testing standards provide classification criteria for dry test results. Handbook HB198 does not provide interpretation of dry test results.

5. How about dry testing for external areas?

A. Dry slip resistance measurement does not apply to external surfaces. If a pedestrian surface is likely to become wet and remain wet for any significant period of time, wet pendulum testing is the appropriate test method.

6. How do I improve the slip resistance of a surface currently achieving 'D0' classification?

A. Many treatments and procedures are available to improve slip resistance. Treatment options will vary depending on the type of surface and whether a sealed or unsealed finish is required. Described on the right are a list of options to improve slip resistance and Reduce Your Risk!

***TABLE 3** Classification of Pedestrian Surface Materials according to the AS 4586-2013 dry floor friction test

Classification Result (AS 4586-2013)	Test Result Mean Value (COF)
D1	≥ 0.40
D0	< 0.40

TREATMENT OPTIONS

For test results that achieve a result below recommendations, the following treatment options are available to increase slip resistance and Reduce Your Risk!

While ISTS is solely an audit service, following is a short list of common types of treatments we see our clients using to improve the slip resistance of various pedestrian surface materials...

Cleaning procedures	Minimising detergent residue build up or other contaminants.
Acid etching	Increasing surface texture.
Coatings and sealers	Surface coatings and penetrative types.
Surface texture	Coatings, etchants, sandblasting, shot blasting, etc.
Surface replacement	May be the most cost effective option in some instances.

An internet search for 'flooring treatments' will identify surface treatment professionals in your local area. ISTS recommends sourcing a number of detailed proposals when considering treatments, outlining expected slip resistance improvements, visual changes, clean ability and life expectancy.

ADDITIONAL NOTES & REFERENCES

References

*Table 3- AS 4586-2013 "Slip resistance classification of new pedestrian surface materials".

#HB198:2014 "Guide to the specification and testing of slip resistance of pedestrian surfaces".

nb. The information provided is intended as a guide only, consult the referenced publications for further information in regards to measurement results and recommendations.



Independent Slip Testing Services is the global leader in accredited slip resistance measurement and classification of pedestrian surface materials.

If you are selecting, purchasing or installing pedestrian surface materials, an independent, accredited classification is a useful tool providing confidence to all stakeholders the product will perform as specified.

TILES PAVERS STONE TIMBER VINYL RUBBER METAL TAPES COATINGS GRATINGS CONCRETE
CARPETS STEP-NOSINGS TACTILES MOSAICS GLASS

Contact us any time if you have questions.
Have a successful day!

