

# "Jacking Up" the Standard

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Spare a thought for the humble motorist or truck driver who has to change a flat tyre (often in difficult roadside conditions) and is reliant on a vehicle jack to safely underpin the weight of the vehicle and be operated with relative ease.

Due to changes in technology and industry requirements, the joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-055 Car Jack and Trolley Jacks is literally "jacking up" the standards for this equipment so as to ensure safety of products coming into the Australian market.

The Standard focuses on providing manufacturers, importers, consumers, retailers, regulators and testing bodies with a set of performance requirements which include technical specifications and test methods for the wide variety of jacks including: -

- Screw jacks
- Hydraulic jacks
- Lever jacks
- Panto Jacks (scissor)



*A trolley jack that failed under test*



*A trolley jack undergoing a load test in accordance with the Australian Standard*

TestSafe Australia has a long-standing involvement with the Committee, and its staff including Laurie Gerisch, Senior Technical Officer, who is a member of the Committee, has been testing jacks to the Standard for more than 20 years. It is NATA-accredited for these tests.

The new Standard released in 2006 (AS/NZS 2693 Vehicle Jacks) places more substantial requirements for caravan/trailer jacks. It also introduces new clauses focusing on high lift jacks that had been designed with the unsafe feature of releasing their load when a certain minimum load is released during the lowering process.

For more information on the new provisions of the Standard contact:  
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