

Question: Why has Technical Specification (TS) 160 been issued?

Answer: TS 160 addresses an Office of Transport Safety Investigation (OTSI) recommendation to improve the door safety system for all applicable buses and to minimise the likelihood of a runaway bus.

TS 155 was issued in 2018 to address the door safety system for larger buses. TS 160 will align smaller buses that have a seating capacity of over 12 persons (including the driver) to equivalent requirements of TS 155 to fully address the OTSI recommendation.

Question: When does TS 160 take effect?

Answer: The new specification was published on 22 December 2021 and will apply to all buses first registered in NSW on, or after 1 January 2023. This will allow a 12-month transition period before the new requirements take effect.

Question: Which TS does my bus need to comply with?

Answer: Please refer to the [Applicability Table](#)

Question: What is an applicable bus?

Answer: Buses used by an accredited service operator that operates any regular passenger service.

Question: What is a small bus?

Answer: A motor vehicle built mainly to carry people that seats over 12 and up to 25 persons including the driver.

Question: What is a large bus?

Answer: A motor vehicle built mainly to carry people that seat more than 25 people including the driver.

Question: What are the accommodations for smaller bus braking systems in TS 160?

Answer: TS 160 has allowances to accommodate hydraulic type brake systems that are typically used in smaller buses as well as manually or electronically applied mechanical handbrakes. The allowances for buses with these systems are:

The door should only function in conjunction with the manual activation of the mechanical handbrake.

If the handbrake is released prior to the door being fully closed, then the system alarm should sound, and limit the throttle.

Question: What are the accommodations for smaller bus door types in TS 160?

Answer: TS 160 has allowances to accommodate the types of doors that are used on smaller buses. These include single leaf outward opening doors that seal and lock in a *car like* fashion, or jack knife type doors.

Question: What are the main changes for larger buses in TS 160?

Answer: The two main changes are:

A plate or label must be fitted to the bus that lists the door safety system manufacturer and includes a compliance statement.

Updated information and details on the door testing process.

Question: Are there any new requirements for operators?

Answer: Yes. The door safety system manufacturer must provide operating and maintenance documentation applicable to the door safety system to the accredited service operator or owner of each bus.

Question: Do existing buses need to be upgraded to TS 160 requirements?

Answer: No. TS 160 applies to all applicable buses first registered in NSW, on or after 1 January 2023.