

SERVICES GUIDE:
TACTILE GROUND
SURFACE INDICATORS



WHAT'S ALL THE TALK ABOUT TACTILES?

TACTILE GROUND SURFACE INDICATORS (TGSIs FOR SHORT) ARE PART OF A GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE GREATER ACCESS FOR PEOPLE IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT.

FOR OVER 30 YEARS, TGSIs HAVE PROVEN A DIGNIFIED AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY MEANS OF PROVIDING UNASSISTED MOBILITY TO THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.

What are TGSIs?

Tactile Ground Surface Indicators are a series of organised raised dots and bars that are installed on pedestrian surfaces to assist in the orientation of people who are blind or vision impaired. The DTAC TGSi range is primarily designed to give tactile warning to people so that they may safely negotiate the built environment. Felt under foot, detected by cane, or even read as a light contrast between a surface and a hazard, TGSIs give information to the vision impaired on where they are, where they are going and where they have been.

TGSIs come in 2 main types:

WARNING – dots (FIGURE 1)

DIRECTIONAL – bars (FIGURE 2)

The DTAC TGSi range can be constructed in two ways. As discrete DTAC TGSIs – dots or bars made of one or two materials that are individually affixed to a substrate/surface (FIGURE 3), or as integrated DTAC TGSIs – dots or bars made of the same material and integrated as one consistent mass (FIGURE 4).

Why are TGSIs mandatory?

In Australia the following legislated codes and standards are very specific to the design, installation and placement of TGSIs. These standards are enforced to allow for the clear reading of TGSIs in all public spaces and to ensure that the experience of the vision impaired remains consistent in the urban landscape.

1. AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND STANDARDS AS/NZS 1428.4.2002 This standard states how to do it. (TGSi Design/Layout/Application)
2. THE BUILDING CODE OF AUSTRALIA (BCA) SECTION D CLAUSE 3.8 This document states what must be done as a legal minimum. (State/National Building Certification requirements of new work)
3. THE DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT (DDA) This Federal Act states why and within what context. (Legal rights of individuals preclude and can override standards or state legislation, even those of a regulatory body)

FIGURE 1

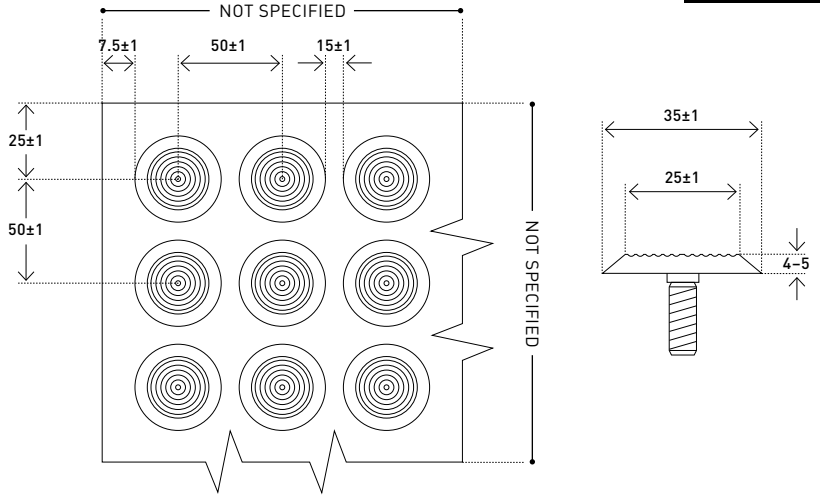


FIGURE 2

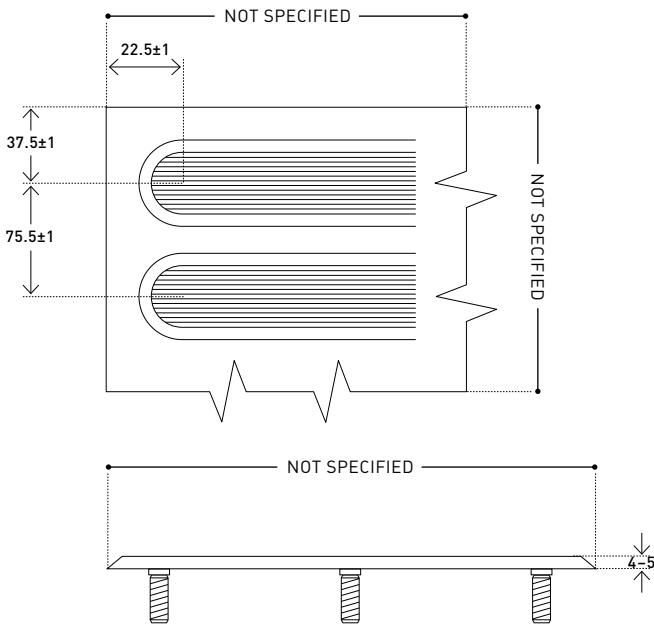
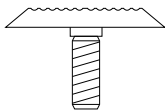
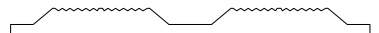


FIGURE 3



DISCREET TGS1

FIGURE 4



INTERGRATED TGS1

WHERE ARE TGSIs REQUIRED?

The DTAC TGSi range will be installed in accordance with the normative part of AS/NZS 1428.4 in situations that can be accessed by the general public such as: stairs, ramps, landings, escalators, travelators, pedestrian crossings and waiting platforms.

The DTAC TGSi range will always be installed:

1. 300±10mm back from the edge of the hazard (Except rail/wharves/water bodies 600mm±10mm)
2. To a minimum depth of 600mm (Except enclosed landings to a minimum depth of 300mm)
3. Across the entire width of the accessible path of travel

The DTAC TGSi range always meets the Luminance Contrast of:

INTEGRATED TGSi–30% to that of the surrounding substrate/surface area

DISCRETE TGSi (One colour or material)–45% to that of the surrounding substrate/surface area

DISCRETE TGSi (Two colours or materials)–60% to that of the surrounding substrate/surface area

How do I ensure I comply with Federal, State and AS/NZS codes and standards?

TGSIs are required in all new and renovated public and private works in a commercial and civil context. AS/NZS 1428.4 is divided into the two sections of normative and informative.

It is the responsibility of a regulatory body such as the BCA, Traffic Authority or Municipality to abide by the normative as it addresses the Federal legislative guidelines of the DDA. However, the informative part of AS/NZS 1428.4 gives a variety of solutions to the vast and varied situations where the DTAC TGSi range may be required.

It is vital for any person, business or government body to stay up to date with AS/NZS 1428 as the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) can override and enforce the normative aspects of the standards — see Where are DTAC TGSIs Installed? — even after a building or developments Certificate of Occupancy has been granted. In Australia, planners, specifiers and contractors using TGSIs are responsible for the total compliance of the normative aspects of AS/NZS 1428.4 regardless of any written and or verbal opinion that a surveyor, council regulator or building certifier may suggest.

How do I get started?

A starting point for using TGSIs is to become familiar with the latest version of AS/NZS 1428.4.

Other documents governing the potential use and design of TGSi applications include:

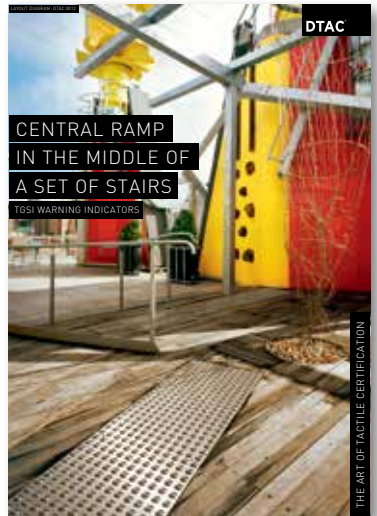
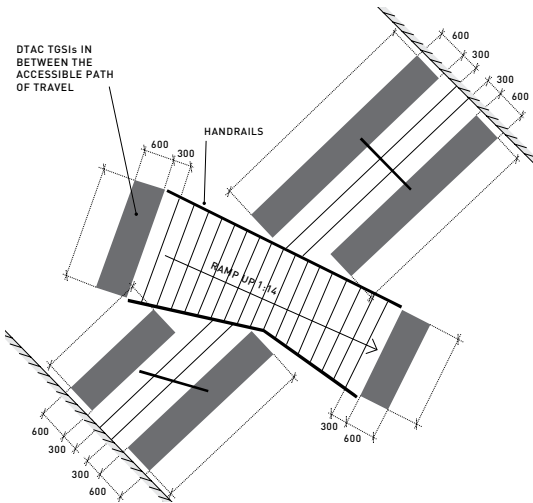
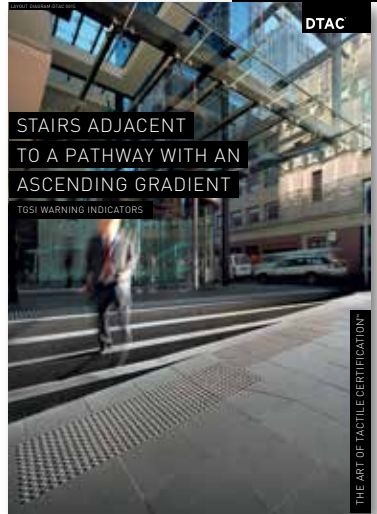
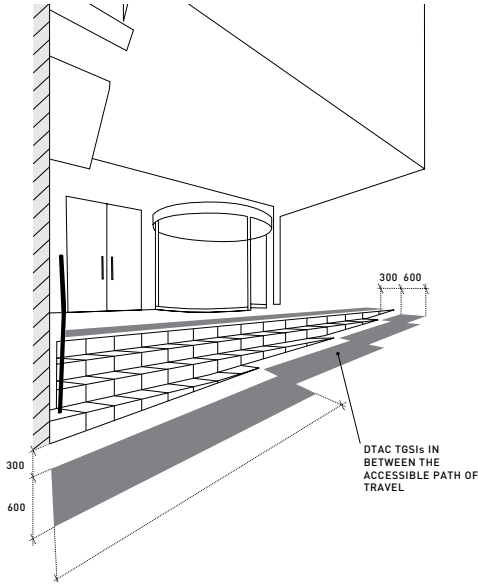
1. AS/NZS 4586–slip resistance classification of new pedestrian surface materials
2. HB 197–an introductory guide to the slip resistance of pedestrian surface materials

All of these documents may be purchased online from SAI Global at www.saiglobal.com/shop/

How can DTAC help?

DTAC are a vertically integrated business that designs, installs and maintains their TGSIs to the exacting codes and standards of the applicable regulatory body.

We have a team of trained personnel all of whom are experienced in the field of TGSIs and explicitly in the normative aspects of AS/NZS 1428.4. If you have any questions in relation to the DTAC TGSi range, DTAC is ready and able to assist you in getting it right. Email a DTAC TGSi representative at solutions@dtac.com.au or for a friendly voice you can call 1300 793 478.



DTAC Layout Guides

These guides are designed to give you a clearer understanding of the placement and application of tactiles in real life. DTAC have photographed various projects and then converted them into simple perspective and plan drawings to give you a communication tool to use with clients, builders and certifiers. They can be downloaded for free at www.dtac.com.au

DISCLAIMER: No one should act or rely upon the information contained within these documents without first referring to the current AS/NZS 1428.4 and satisfying themselves that any proposed installations are in accordance with the Australian Standards or with the applicable building regulations, including the Building Code of Australia (BCA), as they apply from one situation to another. Furthermore, the information provided is solely for the purposes of TGSIs and is not related to the design, configuration or formation to stairs, handrails, ramps and accessible paths depicted therein.

DESIGNED IN AUSTRALIA

DTAC OFFERS CHOICE

With a range of Discrete and Integrated Warning and Directional TGSIs, DTAC offers the best in appearance, slip resistance and design application. The DTAC range of products are constructed from hard-wearing metallic and polymer materials and fabricated within the precise specifications and standards of AS/NZS 1428.4, the Building Code of Australia (BCA) and the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). Extensive testing for slip resistance and luminance contrast has been conducted by independent bodies which ensures peace of mind when selecting a DTAC TGSIs.

Testing for each DTAC TGSIs product may include:

1. AS/NZS 4586 APPENDIX A–Wet Pendulum 4S
2. AS/NZS 4586 APPENDIX A–TRRL Sliders
3. AS/NZS 4586 APPENDIX C–Wet Barefoot Ramp
4. AS/NZS 4586 APPENDIX D–Oil wet ramp Test
5. AS/NZS 1428.4–Wet and Dry Luminance Reflectance

Compliance with a design edge

When selecting a DTAC TGSIs for your application you will never have to compromise on style or performance, no matter what the compliance situation may be. You only need to know what style of DTAC TGSIs you desire—Classic, Terraced or Colourmax—identify your substrate/surface to which the TGSIs is to be installed and DTAC can do the rest. DTAC TGSIs have a number of patented and patent pending slip resistant and fixing features that can ensure performance and compliance on every application.

What can DTAC do for you?

We believe that the more people who can interact, access and utilise a built environment, the greater, more meaningful and successful that built environment can be. We are aware that for some the term Accessibility can imply disability. DTAC adopts an alternate perspective to this, believing that TGSIs can create a greater usability within the context of the urban landscape. Through careful planning, consultation and education TGSIs can be introduced to create a truly interactive, accessible and usable environment.

Whether you are new to TGSIs or are already an experienced DTAC TGSIs specifier, we can assist you with:

1. TGSIs SELECTION & APPLICATION
2. TGSIs INSTALLATION & CERTIFICATION
3. TGSIs MAINTENANCE

DTAC is available to assist you in getting your TGSIs specification right the first time, ensuring your projects' compliance with the relevant codes and standards. By accessing our knowledge base and applying DTAC guidelines to your works, you can avoid costly project delays and have the best chance to have your project certified.

DTAC IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE INDUSTRY LEADER FOR PRODUCT INNOVATION, EDUCATION AND INSTALLATION CONSULTATION

Project Consultation

- DTAC offers a FREE tactile layout consultation service when you specify DTAC
- E-mail, fax or post your working drawings to DTAC before you specify to help meet your legal requirements of the BCA Section D, Clause 3.8, the DDA and AS/NZS 1428.4

Designed and made

- DTAC design their own products and services in Australia
- With a comprehensive range of tactiles available you can be certain that DTAC have the right product and the right advice for your application

Supply and installation

- DTAC supply and install their own products to minimise the legal liability of the specifier
- All members of the DTAC installation team are rigorously trained through the DTAC 18 Step Accreditation process known as 'The Art of Tactile Certification™' that is reviewed annually at the DTAC Installers Conference

Why DTAC?

DTAC strives for excellence in design and craftsmanship. DTAC believe that choosing a product is one thing but it's the workmanship, expertise and commitment to the project that really matters.

If you want to see the latest in DTAC's extensive world project partnerships, go to www.dtac.com.au. Or, for a friendly voice, please feel welcome to contact DTAC on 1300 793 478 for any queries you may have with tactile indicators.

OVER MANY YEARS DTAC HAS ASSISTED DESIGNERS, BUILDING COMPANIES AND MUNICIPALITIES IN DEVELOPING SAFE, NON-DISCRIMINATORY AND ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENTS FOR EVERYONE. WITH EXPERIENCE ON SEVERAL THOUSAND INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS, DTAC WILL PERFORM TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS IN DELIVERING A COMPLIANT AND STYLISH TGSi INSTALLATION. FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ON YOUR NEXT TGSi SPECIFICATION, CONTACT YOUR TRAINED DTAC REPRESENTATIVE TODAY.

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