Frequently asked questions
Harmonising the MUTCD

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has made a decision to adopt Australian Standard AS1742 Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices as part of national harmonisation.

As a result, the Queensland MUTCD will only provide requirements specific to Queensland and has precedence over the equivalent Australian Standard Part.

When do harmonised Parts take effect?

Parts take effect on the day of publication. Harmonisation will be carried out in stages and is anticipated to be completed in 2020. The first stage commenced on 30 November 2016 with the following harmonised Parts:

- Part 1 General introduction and sign illustration
- Part 6 Service and tourist signs
- Part 10 Pedestrian control and protection and
- Part 13 Local area traffic management.

The second stage commenced on 31 May 2017 with the following harmonised Parts:

- Part 7 Railway crossings
- Part 11 Parking controls
- Part 14 Traffic signals.

The third stage commenced on 30 November 2017 and comprises:

- Part 5 Street names and community facility name signs
- Part 12 Bus, transit and truck lanes.

The fourth stage commenced on 30 November 2018 and comprises:

- Part 9 Bicycle facilities.

I have a project in play under a non-harmonised Part of the MUTCD: which version applies for my project?

The version and applicable parts allowed for in the tender (and contract) would be the version and applicable parts indicated in the tender. Should the version or applicable parts be revised at any time during the contract and the Administrator directs the Contractor to comply with these revised documents, this would be a variation to the Contract and be treated as such by the Administrator.

How can I request superseded versions of the Queensland MUTCD?

Once harmonised, earlier versions of Queensland MUTCD Parts will not be available on the departmental website. Users may contact tmr.techdocs@tmr.qld.gov.au to request a superseded version.

What happens to the supplements to the Queensland MUTCD?

Once a Part is harmonised, the previous version becomes superseded. All supplements and supporting documents to that Part will be withdrawn and will cease to be published on the Transport and Main Roads website. Users may contact tmr.techdocs@tmr.qld.gov.au to request a superseded version.

SAI Global charges to access Australian Standards – can Transport and Main Roads give me a free copy?

Copyright and intellectual property law prohibits the Department of Transport and Main Roads from providing copies or extracts of any Australian Standard to users outside the department. SAI Global is the selling agent for Standards Australia. The SAI Global website is https://www.saiglobal.com/.
Can I still buy the MUTCD?

Harmonised Parts are print-enabled on the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices webpage and do not need to be purchased.

Most non-harmonised Queensland MUTCD Parts are not print-enabled but may still be purchased in hard copy using the department’s order form and emailed to tmr.techdocs@tmr.qld.gov.au. Purchased hard copies of the Queensland MUTCD only include:

- Part 2 Traffic control devices for general use
- Part 15 Direction signs, information signs and route numbering.

Which document should I read first, the QLD MUTCD or AS1742?

The harmonised Queensland MUTCD must be read in conjunction with the relevant Part of AS 1742 and has precedence over the equivalent Australian Standard Part.

How do I get updates on the MUTCD?

The MUTCD may be updated tri-annually in March, July and November or on an as needs basis. Users can subscribe to the department’s MUTCD webpage to receive email alerts when this page changes, and to the department’s Industry Update to receive emails of forthcoming technical documents.

For further information, please contact: TrafficEngineering.Support@tmr.qld.gov.au