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Assistive products for persons with vision impairments and persons with vision and hearing impairments — Acoustic and tactile signals for pedestrian traffic lights

*Aides fonctionnelles pour personnes ayant des déficiences visuelles
et/ou des déficiences visuelles et auditives — Signaux acoustiques et
tactiles pour feux de circulation*



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Foreword

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International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 23600 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 173, *Assistive products for persons with disability*.

Introduction

The aim of this International Standard is to specify the requirements for acoustic and tactile signals for pedestrian traffic lights, for persons with vision impairments and persons with vision and hearing impairments.

Persons with vision impairments and persons with vision and hearing impairments travelling alone use a number of techniques and cues in the environment to commence a safe street crossing. Environmental sounds and cues provide timing and directional information.

At an intersection that is equipped with pedestrian lights, acoustic and tactile signals provide equivalent information to persons with vision impairments and persons with vision and hearing impairments.

At an intersection that is not equipped with acoustic and tactile signals, persons with vision impairments are forced to use the sounds of vehicular traffic in order to estimate the time to start crossing a street and to determine their direction of travel. However, the sounds of vehicular traffic are not always available and often insufficient. In the case of persons with vision and hearing impairments, the majority of these people have to rely on assistance. The installation of acoustic and tactile signals for pedestrian traffic lights significantly improves the ability of persons with vision impairments and persons with vision and hearing impairments to travel safely and independently.

Acoustic and tactile signals for pedestrian traffic lights provide persons with vision impairments and persons with vision and hearing impairments with information to know precisely when the walk initiation signal has been activated. They can also provide directional information and the geometry of the intersection.

The specifications and installation methods of acoustic and tactile signals for pedestrian traffic lights have been different from country to country. This International Standard sets out the requirements, technical specifications and performance criteria for acoustic and tactile signals for pedestrian traffic lights.