

PAS 2012 Technical Interpretation		Interpretation number	019
Title	Powered ramp controls		
PAS Version	2012 : 2015 and 2012 : 2019		
Clause(s)	5.3.7.2 (2015) and 5.3.7.2 (2019)	Powered Ramp	
Enquiry	<p>Clause 5.3.7.2 demands that powered ramp controls, if permanently fixed to the WAV, shall be located <b>at the point of entry served by the ramp</b>. This makes sense when an assistant is present to operate the controls, but for unassisted egress from the vehicle, controls fitted “at the point of entry served by the ramp” are usually inaccessible to the wheelchair user inside the vehicle. As WAVs with powered ramps are often UWAVs, It makes sense for the wheelchair user to be able to operate them from inside the car in order to exit independently. Therefore, can the powered ramp control switch be fitted in the dashboard area instead of at the entrance?</p>		
Decision	<p><b>Additional</b> ramp controls <b>may</b> be provided within the vehicle. However, one set of controls must still be present at the point of entry served by the ramp.</p>		
Rationale	<p>Whilst it is reasonable to allow manufacturers to provide additional ramp controls at convenient locations within the vehicle, it was felt that in an emergency situation, anyone rendering assistance and not familiar with the WAV, would logically look in the entrance area near the ramp for the controls. Also, where the WAV is an AWAV rather than a UWAV, the controls for a powered ramp would also have to be readily accessible to the assistant.</p> <p>At the next review, this clause will be amended to reflect the above decision, and Clause 5.3.7.4 will be amended to make it clear that the inhibition shall apply to all ramp controls in the WAV.</p>		
Effective date	27/04/2021	Signed off by: D. Vooght, R. Brotherwood, D. Donnell	