

**Implementation of
ISO 668:1995**

Series 1 freight containers — Classification, dimensions and ratings

ICS 55.180.10

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee PKW/5, Freight containers, upon which the following bodies were represented:

British Industrial Truck Association
British International Freight Association
British Railways Board
Chamber of Shipping
Department of Transport
Department of Transport (Transport Industries)
European Portable Tank Association (British Section)
Federation of the Electronics Industry
Health and Safety Executive
Institute of Refrigeration
Lifting Equipment Engineers' Association
Lloyds Register of Shipping
Ports' Safety Organisation
Road Haulage Association Ltd.
Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Limited

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National foreword

This British Standard reproduces verbatim ISO 668:1995, incorporating Amendment 1:2005 and Amendment 2:2005, and implements it as the UK national standard. It supersedes BS 3951-1.1:1989 which is withdrawn.

The start and finish of text introduced or altered by amendment is indicated in the text by tags **A1** **A1**. Tags indicating changes to ISO text carry the number of the ISO amendment. For example, text altered by ISO amendment 1 is indicated in the text by **A1** **A1**.

This British Standard is published under the direction of the Consumer Products and Services Sector Board whose Technical Committee PKW/5 has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible international committee any enquiries on interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, the ISO title page, page ii, pages 1 to 15 and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**ISO
668**

Fifth edition
1995-12-15

Series 1 freight containers — Classification, dimensions and ratings

*Conteneurs de la série 1 — Classification, dimensions et masses brutes
maximales*



Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 668 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 104, *Freight containers*.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO 668:1988), which has been technically revised.

Annex A forms an integral part of this International Standard.

Foreword to amendments 1 and 2

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

Amendments 1 and 2 to ISO 668:1995 were prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 104, *Freight containers*, Subcommittee SC 1, *General purpose containers*.

1 Scope

This International Standard establishes a classification of series 1 freight containers based on external dimensions, and specifies the associated ratings and, where appropriate, the minimum internal and door opening dimensions for certain types of containers.

These containers are intended for intercontinental traffic.

This International Standard summarizes the external and some of the internal dimensions of series 1 containers. The dimensions of each type of container are defined in the appropriate part of ISO 1496, which is the authoritative document for internal container dimensions.

2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards. ISO 1161:1984, *Series 1 freight containers — Corner fittings — Specification*.

ISO 1496-1:1990, *Series 1 freight containers — Specification and testing — Part 1: General cargo containers for general purposes*.

ISO 1496-2:—¹⁾, *Series 1 freight containers — Specification and testing — Part 2: Thermal containers*.

ISO 6346:1995, *Freight containers — Coding, identification and marking*.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definitions apply. See also ISO 830:1981, *Freight containers — Terminology*.

3.1

freight container

article of transport equipment

- a) of a permanent character and accordingly strong enough to be suitable for repeated use;
- b) specially designed to facilitate the carriage of goods by one or more modes of transport, without intermediate reloading;

- c) fitted with devices permitting its ready handling, particularly its transfer from one mode of transport to another;
- d) so designed as to be easy to fill and empty;
- e) having an internal volume of 1 m³ (35,3 ft³) or more.

the term “freight container” includes neither vehicles nor conventional packing

3.2

ISO container

freight container complying with all relevant ISO container standards in existence at the time of its manufacture

3.3

rating, *R*

the gross mass²⁾, *R*, of a container which is both the maximum mass for operation and the minimum mass for testing

3.4

nominal dimensions

those dimensions, disregarding tolerances and rounded to the nearest convenient whole number, by which a container may be identified

nominal dimensions are usually expressed in imperial units

3.5

internal dimensions

dimensions of the largest unobstructed rectangular parallelepiped which could be inscribed in the container if inward protrusions of the top corner fittings are disregarded

except where otherwise stated, the term “internal dimensions” is synonymous with the term “unobstructed internal dimensions”

3.6

door opening

term usually reserved for the definition of the size of the (end) door aperture, i.e. the width and height dimensions of the largest parallelepiped which could possibly be passed into the container through the door aperture in question

4 Classification and designation

Series 1 freight containers have a uniform width of 2 438 mm (8 ft).

The nominal lengths are listed in Table 1.

Containers 2 896 mm (9 ft 6 in) in height are designated 1AAA and 1BBB.

¹⁾ To be published. (Revision of ISO 1496-2:1988)

²⁾ In some countries, in order to conform to current commercial practice, the term “weight” is used (incorrectly) instead of “mass”.