INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Pallets for materials handling — Quality of new wooden components for flat pallets

Palettes pour la manutention et le transport de marchandises — Qualité des composants neufs en bois pour palettes plates

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 51, *Pallets for unit load method of materials handling*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 18333:2002), which has been technically revised.

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Introduction

Efficient international transportation of products depends on both pallet strength and functionality, or fit, to the material handling systems. Existing International Standards address issues of strength and some issues regarding functionality of pallets. However, major issues related to the minimum material quality and manufacturing and repair workmanship are not addressed in current International Standards. These factors can significantly impact the efficiency of international unit load material handling practices.

The purpose of this International Standard is to establish internationally recognized minimum acceptable quality levels for wooden parts commonly used for the assembly of timber pallets. These parts are stringers, stringerboards, blocks, and deckboards. The properties of these components affect pallet performance.

There are four related International Standards:

— ISO 15629;

— ISO 18333;

— ISO 18334;

— ISO 18613.

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Pallets for materials handling — Quality of new wooden components for flat pallets

1 Scope

This International Standard gives guidance on minimum recommended timber quality characteristics. It is applicable to new stringers, stringerboards, blocks, and deckboards used for flat wooden pallet assembly.

This International Standard does not address the phytosanitation and safety problems, if any, associated with the use of these components.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 445, *Pallets for materials handling — Vocabulary*

EN 844-3, *Round and sawn timber — Terminology — Part 3: General terms relating to sawn timber*

EN 844-9, *Round and sawn timber — Terminology — Part 9: Terms relating to features of sawn timber*

EN 844-10, *Round and sawn timber — Terminology — Part 10: Terms relating to stain and fungal attack*

EN 844-12, *Round and sawn timber — Terminology — Part 12: Additional terms and general index*

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures Publication No. 15 (ISPM 15), *Regulation for wood packaging material in international trade*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 445, EN 844-3, EN 844-9, EN 844-10 and EN 844-12 and the following apply.

3.1
bark pocket
bark that is partly or wholly enclosed in the wood

3.2
boxed heart
pith that is present and not visible in any face or edge

3.3
decay
disintegration of the wood substance due to actions of wood-destroying fungi

3.4
exposed pith
pith that is visible on a part or the full length of a face or on an edge

3.5
face shake
fissure showing on a face and possibly at the end

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