INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Packaging — Tactile warnings of danger — Requirements

Emballages — Indications tactiles de danger — Exigences

Reference number
ISO 11683:1997(E)

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 11683 was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) in collaboration with ISO Technical Committee TC 122, *Packaging*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 11683:1993), which has been technically revised.

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Foreword

The text of EN ISO 11683:1997 has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 261 "Packaging", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR, in collaboration with Technical Committee ISO/TC 122 "Packaging".

This European Standard supersedes EN 272:1989.

The significant technical differences are the following :

- addition of reduced size of symbol.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 1998, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 1998.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

0 Introduction

When blind and visually handicapped persons handle a package, it is difficult or impossible for them to ascertain whether it contains harmless or dangerous substances or preparations.

This problem may be solved by :

- providing packages which contain dangerous substances or preparations, with a tactile warning of danger in accordance with this standard ;

- teaching blind and visually handicapped persons the meaning and the positioning of the tactile warning of danger on the package.

This standard specifies a tactile warning which in its form is normally a raised equilateral triangle, reduced to 3 raised dots where there is not enough space on the package for the triangle.

For blind and visually handicapped persons, the tactile warning of danger is simple in its presentation, is as consistant as possible in its location, makes the teaching and learning process easy and provides a guarantee of recognition.

1 Scope

This standard specifies the requirements for a tactile warning of danger on packagings which contain certain dangerous substances and preparations.

To prevent confusion in interpretation, the tactile warning of danger is affixed only on packages covered by the regulations in force on the dangerous substances and preparations.

This standard does not specify the dangerous substances and preparations to be contained in packagings with a tactile warning of danger. These are to be specified by legislative authorities.

2 Normative references

This standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

EN 417	1992	Non - refillable metallic gas cartridges for liquefied petroleum gases, with or without a valve, for use with portable appliances - Construction, inspection, testing and marking.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions apply :

3.1 dangerous

Description specified by legislative authorities for certain substances (see 3.1.1) and preparations (see 3.1.2).

3.1.1 substances

Chemical elements and their compounds as they occur in the natural state or as produced by industry.

3.1.2 preparations

Mixtures or solutions composed of two or more substances.

3.2 packaging

Any form of container in which substances or preparations are directly packaged.

NOTE: The term Packaging is used throughout in the restricted sense of primary packaging, excluding any secondary packaging or wrapping.

3.3 package

Packaging with its contents.

3.4 bottom

Normal standing surface of packaging.

3.5 handling surface

That part of the packaging which is touched by the user during normal use, viz, picking up and/or handling when opening and emptying the contents of the package.

3.6 edge

Zone where the upright surface(s) and the bottom meet.

4 General requirements

The tactile warning of danger shall be placed on the packaging and not on any secondary packaging, such as a cardboard box protecting a glass bottle, so that it can be felt prior to fully opening the package.

The requirements laid down in clauses 5, 6, 7 and 8 shall be fulfilled.

5 Requirements for the tactile warning

The symbols described in clauses 6 and 7 are deemed to be tactile warnings of danger.

This applies equally to warnings which are an integral part of the packaging or presented otherwise, e.g. on an adhesive label or attached to the packaging.

6 Symbol dimensions

6.1 General

The normal symbol (6.2) shall be used where physically possible. The reduced size 9 mm symbol (6.3.1) shall be used only where application of the normal symbol is not physically possible. The 3 dots symbol (6.3.2) shall be used only where application of the 9 mm symbol is not physically possible. The 3 mm symbol (6.3.3) shall be used only where application of the 3 dots symbol is not physically possible.

6.2 Normal size

The symbol shall be an equilateral triangle with corners as sharp as possible (see figure 1).

At the corners, the sides shall be joined where practicable, if not, no more than 1,0 mm apart.

The length L of the side shall be 18 mm ± 2 mm.