
Packaging — Vocabulary

Emballages — Vocabulaire

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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.

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.

ISO 21067 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 122, *Packaging*.

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Introduction

This vocabulary was compiled from various sources, including the following:

- American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
- American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM D 996)
- Australian Standards (AS 2400)
- British Standards Institution (BS 3130-1)
- Deutsches Institut für Normung (DIN 55405)
- European Packaging Federation (EPF)
- South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)
- NATO STANAG AAP-23

This International Standard is intended to be used as a source document within the global community. This inventory of terms will be useful in a multilingual thesaurus showing concept relationships as well as terms in other languages. Work on this proposed standard, begun in 1987, has been under convenorship of ANSI since 1995 as ISO/TC 122, Working Group 5, *Terminology and vocabulary*.

This International Standard does not cover environmental statements referring to packaging. These are covered by ISO 14021.

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Packaging — Vocabulary

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies preferred terms and definitions related to packaging and materials handling, for use in international commerce.

For packaging designed for the transport of dangerous goods, terms and definitions are given in the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods^[9].

2 Terms and definitions

2.1 Basic terms

2.1.1

packaging

⟨product⟩ any product to be used for the containment, protection, handling, delivery, storage, transport and presentation of goods, from raw materials to processed goods, from the producer to the user or consumer, including processor, assembler or other intermediary

2.1.2

packaging

⟨operation⟩ operations involved in the preparation of goods for containment, protection, handling, delivery, storage, transport and presentation of goods, from raw materials to processed goods, from the producer to the user or consumer

NOTE The term includes preservation, packing, marking and unitization.

2.1.3

pack, noun

package, noun

packaging (2.1.1) and its contents

2.1.4

pack, verb

package, verb

create a package (2.1.3)

2.2 General terms

2.2.1

container

shipping container

⟨for transport⟩ article of transport equipment strong enough to be suitable for repeated use and specially designed to facilitate the carriage of goods by one or more means of transport without breakage of load

NOTE 1 Adapted from RID/ADR regulations^{[7][8]}.

NOTE 2 The phrase "without breakage of load" means that the container is handled as a single unit during transit.

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NOTE 3 The term “container” is often used as a non-specific term for a receptacle (see 2.2.15).

NOTE 4 In the USA and some other parts of the world, shipping containers are packagings such as boxes, crates and drums that are approved by regulatory agencies for the transport of goods.

NOTE 5 For full definition of freight container, see ISO 830:1999, 3.1.

2.2.2

primary packaging

packaging (2.1.1) designed to come into direct contact with the product

2.2.3

secondary packaging

packaging (2.1.1) designed to contain one or more primary packagings together with any protective materials where required

2.2.4

distribution packaging

transport packaging

packaging (2.1.1) designed to contain one or more articles or packages, or bulk material, for the purposes of transport, handling and/or distribution

2.2.5

consumer packaging

retail packaging

sales packaging

packaging (2.1.1) constituting, with its contents, a sales unit for the final user or consumer at the point of retail

2.2.6

industrial packaging

packaging (2.1.1) for raw materials, components and partially manufactured or finished goods, for distribution from manufacturer to manufacturer and/or other intermediaries such as processor or assembler

2.2.7

bulk packaging

packaging intended to contain loose articles, large masses of solids or granular materials, or liquids for transport or storage

2.2.8

child-resistant package

package which is difficult for young children to open (or gain access to the contents), but which is possible for adults to use properly

2.2.9

base pack

unit pack

smallest pack (2.1.3) with identical or different products that are to be supplied at the same time

2.2.10

commercial package

packaging (2.1.1) which, as far as quantity of content, type, quality or design of the package are concerned, conforms to the requirements of the respective level of trading

NOTE Adapted from NATO glossary of packaging terms and definitions ^[6].

2.2.11

consolidated pack

more than one package grouped together to facilitate handling operations

2.2.12**containerization**

shipping method in which goods are loaded together in one container (2.2.1)

2.2.13**overpack**

enclosure generally used by a single consignor to contain one or more packages consolidated into a single unit to facilitate easy handling and stowage during transport

NOTE 1 Adapted from United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods ^[9].

NOTE 2 In English, the same term is also used to describe the use of excessive packaging.

2.2.14**packaging chain**

sector of the overall economy involving all economic operators concerned with the packaging and/or distribution of goods

2.2.15**container**

(for packaging) non-specific receptacle capable of closure

cf. 2.2.1.

2.2.16**flexible packaging**

packaging whose shape is likely to change after the contents are added or removed

2.2.17**rigid packaging**

packaging whose shape remains essentially unchanged after the contents are added or removed

2.3 Types of packaging (product)**2.3.1****bag**

flexible packaging of single or multiple layers or plies, generally enclosed on all sides except one, forming an opening that may or may not be sealed after filling

2.3.2**sack**

bag (2.3.1)

NOTE "Bag" is also defined in other International Standards as "sack".

2.3.3**bale**

shaped unit of compressed articles or materials bound with cord, strapping or metal ties under tension

NOTE 1 It may also be wrapped.

NOTE 2 Adapted from NATO glossary of packaging terms and definitions ^[6].

2.3.4**barrel**

packaging of circular cross-section, with greater length than breadth, with convex sides and two flat ends of equal diameter

NOTE A barrel is normally made of wooden staves bound together with hoops.