
**Series 1 freight containers —
Specification and testing —**

**Part 5:
Platform and platform-based
containers**

Conteneurs de la série 1 — Spécifications et essais —

Partie 5: Conteneurs plates-formes et type plate-forme

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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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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).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 104, *Freight containers*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Specific purpose containers*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 1496-5:1991), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Amendments ISO 1496-5:1991/Amd 1:1993 and ISO 1496-5:1991/Amd 2:1994. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- in [5.9.1](#), “1CC, 1C and 1CX” have been deleted;
- old subclauses 5.9.2, 5.9.3 and 6.12 have been deleted and new subclause [7.4](#) added;
- in [Table 3](#), the stacking test loads have been changed according to ISO 1496-1:2013;
- in [6.8.2](#), the floor strength test load has been changed from 5 460 kg to 7 260 kg;
- old Annexes B, D and E have been deleted;

A list of all parts in the ISO 1496 series can be found on the ISO website.

Series 1 freight containers — Specification and testing —

Part 5:

Platform and platform-based containers

1 Scope

This document specifies the basic specifications and testing requirements for ISO series 1 freight containers of the platform and platform-based types designated 1AAA, 1AA, 1A, 1AX, 1BBB, 1BB, 1B, 1BX, 1CC, 1C and 1CX which are suitable for international exchange and for conveyance by road, rail and sea, including interchange between these forms of transport, with certain limitations (for example, when loaded, platforms cannot be stacked or top lifted by means of conventional spreaders).

The container types covered by this document are given in [Table 1](#).

Table 1 — Container types (in accordance with ISO 6346:1995/Amd 3:2012, Table E.1)

Code	Type designation	Type group code	Main characteristics	Detailed type code
P	Platform (container)	PL	Platform (container)	P0
P	Platform-based container with incomplete superstructure:			
P	-- Fixed	PF	-- Two complete and fixed ends	P1
P			-- Fixed posts, either free-standing or with removable top member	P2
P	-- Folding (collapsible)	PC	-- Folding complete end structure	P3
P			-- Folding posts, either free-standing or with removable top member	P4
P	Platform-based container with complete superstructure	PS	-- Open top, open ends (skeletal)	P5
P	-- Platform-based container for named cargo	PT	-- Ship's gear carrier	P6
P			-- Car carrier	P7
P			-- Timber/pipe carrier	P8
P			-- Coil carrier	P9

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 668, *Series 1 freight containers — Classification, dimensions and ratings*

ISO 830, *Freight containers — Vocabulary*

ISO 1161, *Series 1 freight containers — Corner and intermediate fittings — Specifications*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 830 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 platform

flat structure having no superstructure

Note 1 to entry: The equipment covered by this document is defined as a loadable platform having no superstructure whatsoever but having the same length and width as the base of series 1 containers, and equipped with top and bottom corner fittings, located in plan view as on other series 1 containers, so that some securing and lifting devices used on other series 1 containers of the same length can also be used on platforms.

3.2 platform-based container

container which has no side walls but has a base similar to that of a platform container

3.3 incomplete superstructure

superstructure lacking any permanently fixed longitudinal load-carrying structure between the ends other than at the base

3.4 interlocked pile

number of platform containers or folding *platform-based containers* (3.2), with ends folded down, which are interlocked to form a unit (module)

Note 1 to entry: See 4.1.3.

4 Dimensions and ratings

4.1 External dimensions

4.1.1 The overall external dimensions and tolerances of the freight containers covered by this document shall be those established in ISO 668, except that the requirements for the overall top lengths, L , of platform-based containers with incomplete superstructure may be relaxed to the extreme limits specified in Table 2.

Table 2 — Overall top dimension, L

Container designation	Overall top dimension in tare condition T	Overall top dimension when loaded to R
	L_{\max} mm	L_{\min} mm
1AAA, 1AA, 1A and 1AX	12 202	12 172
1BBB, 1BB, 1B and 1BX	9 135	9 105
1CC, 1C and 1CX	6 068	6 042

Any movement of the corner posts resulting from the change from the empty to the fully loaded condition of the container should, as far as practicable, be equally disposed about the mean of the values of L_{\max} and L_{\min} .

Taking into account the fact that the mechanism of the folding end structures may introduce natural play, the values of L_{\max} and L_{\min} specified in [Table 2](#) shall be met. Failure to comply with this requirement is liable to lead to handling difficulties.

4.1.2 No part of the platform or platform-based container shall project beyond the envelope defined by the overall external dimensions specified in:

- ISO 668 for the plan dimensions of the base structure of all containers, the plan dimensions of the top part of container with complete superstructure, or the overall maximum height of all containers which may also be of reduced dimensions; or
- [Table 2](#) for the plan dimensions of the top part of containers with incomplete superstructure.

4.1.3 An interlocked pile of either platform or folded platform-based containers shall have the plan dimensions specified in ISO 668 and a pile height not exceeding 2 896 mm¹⁾.

4.2 Internal dimensions

Internal dimensions are not specified; however, minimum internal dimensions of existing 1CC, 1C and 1CX platform-based containers for the carriage of small containers are given in [Annex D](#). The values are given as a guide to the design of small intermodal containers.

4.3 Ratings

The values of the rating, R , the maximum gross mass of these containers, shall be those specified in ISO 668.

5 Design requirements

5.1 General

5.1.1 All containers shall be capable of fulfilling the requirements given in [5.1.2](#) to [5.1.5](#).

5.1.2 The strength requirements for containers are given in diagrammatic form in [Annex A](#) (these requirements are applicable to all containers except where otherwise stated). They apply to containers as complete units, i.e. those removable components in position as required for the intended operating conditions.

5.1.3 The strength requirements for corner fittings (see also [5.3](#)) are specified in ISO 1161.

5.1.4 All containers, except containers with folding ends (codes P3 and P4) in the folded condition, shall be capable of withstanding the loads and loadings specified in [Clause 6](#).

Containers with folding ends in the folded condition shall be capable of withstanding the loads and loadings specified in [Clause 7](#).

As the effects of loads encountered under any dynamic operating condition should only approach, but not exceed, the effects of the corresponding test loads, it is implicit that the capabilities of containers indicated in [Annex A](#), and demonstrated by the tests described in [Clauses 6](#) and [7](#), shall not be exceeded in any mode of operation.

Containers need not be weatherproof but, if designed to be weatherproof, they shall satisfy test No. 13 (see 7.13).

1) 2 896 mm = 9 ft 6 in.

5.1.5 Any movable part which, if unsecured, could lead to a hazardous situation, shall be provided with an adequate securing system having external indication of the positive securement of that part in the appropriate operating position.

5.2 Interlocked pile of folded containers

Horizontal free play shall be limited between individual folded containers forming an interlocked pile so that the pile is capable of complying with the dimensional requirements of [4.1.3](#).

The sum of the tare weights of the platform containers forming an interlocked pile, together with any required securing devices, shall not exceed the maximum gross mass (MGM) specified in ISO 668 for the size of container in question.

5.3 Corner fittings

5.3.1 All containers shall be equipped with top and bottom corner fittings (see Notes 1 and 2). The requirements and positioning of the corner fittings are given in ISO 1161, except for the case mentioned in [4.1.1](#).

NOTE 1 For 1CX platforms, the top and bottom corner fittings can be combined providing they comply with ISO 1161.

NOTE 2 Due to greater inherent flexibility of all sizes of platform-based containers with incomplete superstructure, the top aperture of top corner fittings can be increased by 10 mm in the direction of their end wall.

In such a case, the end aperture should be omitted in order to retain corner fitting strength.

5.3.2 Containers with folding ends shall be equipped with features such that, in the folded condition, they may be stacked and secured, lifted from the top by means of a spreader equipped with corner fitting locking devices (e.g. twistlocks), and interlocked with other containers having similar folding end structures.

The features shall have at least an equivalent to the upper face and internal cavity of the top corner fitting.

The positioning of the features in the folded condition shall meet the requirements of ISO 1161.

5.3.3 For all containers, including containers with folding ends folded down, the upper faces of the top corner fittings or equivalent features (performing some of the functions of top corner fittings, see [5.3.2](#)) shall protrude above the top of the container by a minimum of 6 mm²⁾ (see [5.4.3](#)). "Top of the container" is understood as the highest level of any part of the container, for example the level of the top of a soft cover.

However, if reinforced zones or doubler plates are provided to afford protection in the vicinity of the top corner fittings, such plates and their securements shall not protrude above the upper faces of the top corner fittings.

These plates shall not extend more than 750 mm²⁾ from either end of the container but may cover the full width.

5.4 Base structure

5.4.1 All containers shall be capable of being supported by their bottom corner fittings only.

2) $6 \text{ mm} = \frac{1}{4} \text{ in}$; $12,5 \text{ mm} \begin{smallmatrix} +5 \\ -1,5 \end{smallmatrix} \text{ mm} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ in}$; $\begin{smallmatrix} +3/16 \\ -1/16 \end{smallmatrix} \text{ in } 250 \text{ mm} = 10 \text{ in}$; $750 \text{ mm} = 29 \frac{1}{2} \text{ in}$.

5.4.2 All containers shall be capable of being supported only by load-transfer areas in their base structure.

5.4.2.1 Consequently, these containers shall have end transverse members and sufficient intermediate load-transfer areas (or a flat underside) of sufficient strength to permit vertical load transfer to or from the longitudinal members of a carrying vehicle. Such longitudinal members are assumed to lie within the two 375 mm³⁾ wide zones defined by the broken lines in ISO 668:2013, Figure B.1.

5.4.2.2 The lower faces of the load-transfer areas in the container base structure, including those of the end transverse members, shall be in one plane located 12,5 mm $^{+5}_{-1,5}$ mm²⁾ above the plane of the lower faces of the bottom corner fittings of the container (base plane), except where camber is provided (see 5.4.5).

Apart from the bottom corner fittings and bottom side rail, no part of the container shall project below this plane. However, doubler plates may be provided in the vicinity of the bottom corner fittings to afford protection to the understructure.

Such plates shall not extend more than 550 mm⁴⁾ from the outer end and not more than 470 mm⁴⁾ from the side faces of the bottom corner fittings and their lower faces shall be at least 5 mm⁴⁾ above the base plane of the container.

5.4.2.3 The transfer of load between the underside of the bottom side rails and carrying vehicles is not envisaged.

The transfer of load between bottom side rails and handling equipment should only occur when provision has been made in accordance with 5.9.1.

5.4.2.4 Containers having all their intermediate transverse members spaced 1 000 mm⁴⁾ apart or less (or having a flat underside) shall be deemed to comply with the requirements of 5.4.2.1.

5.4.2.5 Requirements for containers not having transverse members spaced 1 000 mm⁴⁾ apart or less (and not having a flat underside) are given in ISO 668:2013, Annex B.

5.4.3 For all containers under dynamic conditions, or the static equivalent of a container having a load uniformly distributed over the floor in such a way that the combined mass of the container and test load is equal to 1,8R, no part of the base of the container shall deflect more than 6 mm⁴⁾ below the base plane of the container.

5.4.4 The base structure shall be designed to withstand all forces, particularly lateral forces, induced by the cargo in service (see also 5.7.3, 5.7.4 and Figure A.7 and Figure A.8). This is particularly important where provisions are made for securement of cargo to the base structure of the container.

5.4.5 Camber may be provided with respect to the end transverse members, which shall be located at the height specified in 5.4.2.2.

When determining camber of a platform-based container, note should be taken of the relationship between the base deflections which occur under load and the longitudinal movement which is permitted at the top of the corner posts (for which the limit is specified in 4.1.1).

When a container with camber is loaded to its rating R, the base should be approximately horizontal to facilitate the transport of the container when it is supported by its base structure only.

3) 6 mm = $\frac{1}{4}$ in; 12,5 mm $^{+5}_{-1,5}$ mm = $\frac{1}{2}$ in; $^{+3/16}_{-1/16}$ 375 mm = 15 in; 750 mm = $29\frac{1}{2}$ in.

4) 5 mm = $\frac{3}{16}$ in; 42 mm = $1\frac{3}{4}$ in; 60 mm = $2\frac{3}{8}$ in; 470 mm = $18\frac{1}{2}$ in; 550 mm = 22 in; 1 000 mm = $39\frac{3}{8}$ in.

5.5 End structure (platform-based containers only)

For all platform-based containers, the sideways deflection of the top of the container with respect to the bottom of the container, at the time it is under full transverse rigidity test conditions, shall not cause the sum of the changes in length of the two diagonals to exceed 60 mm⁴).

5.6 Side structure (platform-based containers only)

For all platform-based containers, the longitudinal deflection of the top of the container with respect to the bottom of the container, at the time it is under full longitudinal rigidity test conditions, shall not exceed 42 mm⁴).

5.7 Walls and securing devices

5.7.1 Where containers are provided with end walls, these shall be able to withstand the effects of test No. 5, except insofar as is implied in [5.7.3](#).

5.7.2 Where openings are provided in end walls, the ability of these walls to withstand test No. 5 shall not be impaired.

5.7.3 Where containers are provided with ends which are not able to withstand test No. 5, means shall be provided for securing the cargo to the base structure in such a manner that the cargo does not transmit longitudinal forces to the ends.

5.7.4 Since the containers do not have side walls, adequate means shall be provided to permit the securing of the cargo against lateral movement.

5.7.5 The design requirements for cargo-securing devices presented in [5.7.3](#) and [5.7.4](#) are specified in [Annex C](#).

5.8 Door openings

Door openings need not be provided.

5.9 Requirements — Optional features — Fork-lift pockets

5.9.1 Fork-lift pockets for handling containers in the loaded or unloaded condition may be provided as optional features.

5.9.2 Where a set of fork-lift pockets has been fitted as in [5.9.1](#), a second set of fork-lift pockets may, in addition, be provided on 1CC, 1C and 1CX containers for empty handling only.

5.9.3 Fork-lift pockets may be provided on 1AAA, 1AA, 1A, 1AX, 1BBB, 1BB, 1B, 1BX containers for empty handling only, and caution decals shall be applied near the pockets to indicate operators that these pockets are only for empty handling.

5.9.4 The fork-lift pockets, where provided, shall meet the dimensional requirements specified in [Annex B](#) and shall pass completely through the base structure of the container so that lifting devices may be inserted from either side. The base of the fork-lift pockets need not be the full width of the container but shall be provided near each end of the fork-lift pockets.