
**Pallets for materials handling — Quality
of assembly of new wooden pallets**

*Palettes pour la manutention et le transport des marchandises —
Qualité d'assemblage des palettes neuves en bois*

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Published in Switzerland

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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 18334 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 51, *Pallets for unit load method of materials handling*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 18334:2003), which has been technically revised to include reference to ISPM 15 and other national or international phytosanitation regulations and, in 6.1.1, to make the tolerances less restrictive for manual unit-load materials-handling systems.

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Introduction

Efficient international transportation of products depends on both pallet strength and functionality, or fit, to the materials-handling systems. Existing International Standards address issues of strength and some issues regarding functionality of pallets. However, major issues related to 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 materials-handling practices.

The purpose of this International Standard is to establish internationally recognized minimum acceptable quality levels for the assembly of new wood pallets. This includes recommended criteria for pallet component placement accuracy, fastening schedules and fastener placement accuracy.

There are three other related International Standards:

- ISO 15629, *Pallets for materials handling — Quality of fasteners for assembly of new and repair of used, flat, wooden pallets*
- ISO 18333, *Pallets for materials handling — Quality of new wooden components for flat pallets*
- ISO 18613, *Repair of wooden flat pallets*

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