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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*



Reference number
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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 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.