

Australian Standard™

Freight containers

**Part 9: Coding, identification
and marking**

[Modified and containing the full text of ISO 6346:1995]

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME/68, Freight Containers. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 31 August 1999 and published on 24 January 2000.

The following interests are represented on Committee ME/68:

Australasian Railway Association
Australian Chamber of Shipping
Australian Maritime Safety Authority
AUSTROADS
Department of Defence (Australia)
Germanischer Lloyd
National Freight Forwarders Association
National Road Transport Commission

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee ME/68, Freight Containers to supersede AS/NZS 3711.9:1993. It modifies and has been reproduced from ISO 6346:1995, *Freight containers—Coding, identification and marking*.

This Standard is Part 9 of AS or AS/NZS 3711, *Freight containers* series. The series comprises—

AS 3711.1	Part 1: Classification, dimensions and ratings
AS/NZS 3711.2	Part 2: Terminology
AS/NZS 3711.3	Part 3: Corner fittings
AS/NZS 3711.4	Part 4: General purpose containers
AS 3711.5	Part 5: Thermal containers
AS 3711.6	Part 6: Tank containers
AS/NZS 3711.7	Part 7: Dry bulk containers
AS 3711.8	Part 8: Platform containers
AS 3711.9	Part 9: Coding, identification and marking
AS 3711.10	Part 10: Handling and securing

Changes since the last edition include the following:

- Inclusion of changes incorporated in ISO 6346:1995.
- Modification to requirements for data plates (new Clause 7).

The number of this Standard is not reproduced on each page. Its identity is shown only on the cover and the title page.

For the purposes of this Standard, the text of ISO 6346:1995 should be modified as follows:

- Substitute 'Australian Standard' for 'International Standard' wherever it occurs.
- Substitute a full point (.) for a comma (,) as a decimal marker.
- Variations between ISO 6346 and this Standard, for application in Australia only, are set out in Appendix ZZ. These variations are indicated by a marginal bar against each clause, table, figure or part thereof affected.
- Replace references to other publications by references to Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards as follows:

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>		<i>Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standard</i>	
ISO		AS	
668	Series 1 freight containers— Classification, external dimensions and ratings	3711	Freight containers
		3711.1	Part 1: Classification, dimensions and ratings
		AS/NZS	
1496	Series 1 freight containers— Specification and testing—	3711.4	Part 4: General purpose containers
1496-1	Part 1: General cargo containers for general purposes		
1496-2	Part 2: Thermal containers	3711.5	Thermal containers
1496-3	Part 3: Tank containers for liquids and gases	3711.6	Tank containers

ISO		AS/NZS	
1496-4	Part 4: Non-pressurized containers for dry bulk		
1496-5	Part 5: Platform and platform-based containers	3711.7	Part 7: Dry bulk containers
		AS	
		3711.8	Part 8: Platform containers
8323	Freight containers—Air/surface (intermodal) general purpose containers—Specification and tests	—	
10374	Freight containers—Automatic identification	—	

The term 'normative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Freight containers

Part 9: Coding, identification and marking

1 Scope

1.1 This International Standard provides a system for the identification and presentation of information about freight containers. The identification system is intended for general application, for example in documentation, control and communications (including automatic data processing systems), as well as for display on the containers themselves.

The methods of displaying identification and certain other data (including operational data) on containers by means of permanent marks are included.

1.2 This International Standard specifies:

- a) a container identification system, with an associated system for verifying the accuracy of its use, having:
 - mandatory marks for the presentation of the identification system for visual interpretation, and
 - features to be used in optional Automatic Equipment Identification (AEI) and electronic data interchange (EDI);
- b) a coding system for data on container size and type, with corresponding marks for their display;
- c) optional marks, both mandatory and optional;
- d) physical presentation of marks on the container.

1.3 The terms "mandatory" and "optional" in this International Standard are used to differentiate those ISO marking provisions which shall necessarily be fulfilled by all containers from those which are not required of all containers. The optional marks are in-

cluded to further comprehension and promote uniform application of the optional mark. If a choice has been made to display an optional mark, the provisions laid down in this International Standard relating to the mark shall be applied. The terms "mandatory" and "optional" do not refer to requirements of any regulatory body.

1.4 This International Standard applies to all freight containers covered by International Standards ISO 6346 parts 1 to 5 of ISO 1496, ISO 8323 and should, wherever appropriate and practicable, be applied:

- to containers other than those covered by the International Standards mentioned in clause 2;
- to container-related and/or detachable equipment.

NOTE 1 Containers marked according to previous editions of ISO 6346 need not be re-marked.

1.5 This International Standard does not cover temporary operational marks of any kind, permanent marks, data plates, etc. which may be required by intergovernmental agreements, national legislation or nongovernmental organizations other than ISO.

NOTE 2 Some of the major international conventions whose container-marking requirements are not covered in this International Standard are as follows:

- *International Convention for Safe Containers (UN/IMO 1992)*;
- *Customs Convention on Containers 1956 and 1972*;
- *Customs Convention on International Movement of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention) 1959 and 1975*.

It should not be assumed that this list is exhaustive.