



WORKING DRAFT EAST AFRICAN STANDARD

Leather – Leather suitcase – specification

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
4 Requirements	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.1 General requirements	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.2 Specific requirements	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.3 Type, design and size of leather car seat covers	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.3.1 Type and design	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.3.2 Size	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.4 Construction of lining and interlining material	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5 Packaging	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6 Marking and labelling	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.1 Leather car seat covers	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.2 Bulk Package	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Annex A (normative) Annex title	Error! Bookmark not defined.
A.1 Scale of sampling	Error! Bookmark not defined.
A.2 Method of selection	Error! Bookmark not defined.
A.3 Defects	Error! Bookmark not defined.
A.4 Acceptance criteria	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Bibliography	12

Foreword

Development of the East African Standards has been necessitated by the need for harmonizing requirements governing quality of products and services in the East African Community. It is envisaged that through harmonized standardization, trade barriers that are encountered when goods and services are exchanged within the Community will be removed.

The Community has established an East African Standards Committee (EASC) mandated to develop and issue East African Standards (EAS). The Committee is composed of representatives of the National Standards Bodies in Partner States, together with the representatives from the public and private sector organizations in the community.

East African Standards are developed through Technical Committees that are representative of key stakeholders including government, academia, consumer groups, private sector and other interested parties. Draft East African Standards are circulated to stakeholders through the National Standards Bodies in the Partner States. The comments received are discussed and incorporated before finalization of standards, in accordance with the principles and procedures for development of East African Standards.

East African Standards are subject to review, to keep pace with technological advances. Users of the East African Standards are therefore expected to ensure that they always have the latest versions of the standards they are implementing.

The committee responsible for this document is Technical Committee EASC/TC 063, *Leather and leather products*.

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Leather – Leather suitcase – specification

1 Scope

This Draft East African Standard specifies requirements, sampling and test methods for leather suitcases.

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 15115:2019 Leather — Vocabulary

ISO 5398 (All parts) Leather — Chemical determination of chromic oxide content

ISO 17075 (All parts) Leather — Chemical determination of chromium (VI) content in leather

ISO 15700 Leather — Tests for colour fastness — Colour fastness to water spotting

ISO 4045 Leather — Chemical tests — Determination of pH and difference figure

ISO 2589 Leather — Physical and mechanical tests — Determination of thickness

ISO 3377 (All parts) Leather — Physical and mechanical tests — Determination of tear load

ISO 23910 Leather — Physical and mechanical tests — Measurement of stitch tear resistance

ISO 17226 (All parts) Leather — Chemical determination of formaldehyde content

ISO 11640 Leather — Tests for colour fastness — Colour fastness to cycles of to-and-fro rubbing

ISO 17234 (All parts) Leather — Chemical tests for the determination of certain azo colorants in dyed leathers

ISO 3378 Leather — Physical and mechanical tests — Determination of resistance to grain cracking and grain crack index

ISO 17076(All parts) Leather — Determination of abrasion resistance Part 1: Taber® method

ISO 3801Textiles — Woven fabrics — Determination of mass per unit length and mass per unit area

ISO 9073-1Nonwovens — Test methods Part 1: Determination of mass per unit area

EAS 257

ISO 13934-1Textiles — Tensile properties of fabrics Part 1: Determination of maximum force and elongation at maximum force using the strip method

ISO 13934-2:2014Textiles — Tensile properties of fabrics Part 2: Determination of maximum force using the grab method

ISO 105-C10:2006Textiles — Tests for colour fastness Part C10: Colour fastness to washing with soap or soap and soda

ISO 105-X12:2016Textiles — Tests for colour fastness Part X12: Colour fastness to rubbing

ISO 105-B01:2014Textiles — Tests for colour fastness Part B01: Colour fastness to light: Daylight

ISO 105-B02:2014Textiles — Tests for colour fastness Part B02: Colour fastness to artificial light: Xenon arc fading lamp test

ISO 2859-1:2026Sampling procedures for inspection by attributes Part 1: Sampling schemes indexed by acceptance quality limit (AQL) for lot-by-lot inspection

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply (WDEAS/TC063/0003/2026).

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

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

Leather Suitcase: A rigid or semi-rigid container, externally covered wholly or primarily with leather, designed for the storage, protection, and transport of personal belongings

Leather: The term “leather” shall be defined in accordance with ISO 15115:2019 (Leather — Vocabulary)

4 Requirements

4.1 General requirements

4.1.1 The outer covering material shall be made of full-grain, corrected grain, or top-grain leather.

4.1.2 The outer cover material shall be free from defects that may affect appearance or their performance.

4.1.3 The Construction shall be of a sturdy frame made with durable materials capable of maintaining shape and protecting contents during normal handling

4.1.4 Metal components, whether functional or decorative, shall be intrinsically corrosive resistant or shall have been coated so as to render them resistant to corrosion. They shall be securely, neatly attached and of sufficient length to ensure their performance.

4.1.5 Stitching may be functional and/or decorative. Seams shall be double stitched using strong threads. The number of stitches per unit shall be uniform and shall not impair the strength of the material being stitched. The ends of all stitched seams shall be backstitched and free from loose threads.

4.1.6 Suitcase handles shall withstand repeated lifting without tearing or detachment

4.1.7 Suitcases shall be fitted with secure locking mechanisms

4.1.8 The corners shall be reinforced to resist abrasion and impact during handling

4.2 specific requirements

Leather suitcases shall comply with physical and chemical requirements given in table 1 when tested in accordance with test methods specified therein

Table 1 — Specific requirements for outer leather and lining material suitcases

S/No.	Characteristic		Requirement		Test method
			Outer material	Lining leather	
i.	ChromiumIII content, %, min.		3.5	3.5	ISO 5398
ii.	Chromium VI content, (mg/kg), max.		3	3	ISO 17075
iii.	Colour fastness to water spotting, min		4	4	ISO 15700
iv.	pH value		4.5 – 5.5	4.5 – 5.5	ISO 4045
v.	Thickness, mm, min.	Soft /medium	1.0	0.8	ISO 2589
		Heavy duty	1.8		
vi.	Tear strength, N, min.		50	30	ISO 3377
vii.	Stitch Tear Strength, N/mm, min		100	50	ISO 23910

viii.	Light fastness, (blue wool standards), min.		5	3	ISO 105 -B01 ISO 105-B02
ix.	Formaldehyde, mg/kg, max.		150	150	ISO 17226
x.	Rub fastness (50 cycles), dry /wet, Min		4	4	ISO 11640
xi.	<i>Azo colorant (applicable to dyed leather only), mg/kg, max.</i>		30	NA	ISO 17234
xii.	Grain cracking on double fold		Nil	NA	ISO 3378
xiii.	Water vapour permeability mg/cm ² /h, min.		2	NA	
xiv.	Resistance to buckling, falling (drop test)		Pass test	NA	Annex A
xv.	Handle strength		Pass test		Annex B
xvi.	Abrasion Resistance	Dry cycles (25,600)	Nil	Nil	ISO 17076
		Wet cycles (6,400)			

Table 2 — Specific requirements for fabric lining material

Fabric lining material shall comply with the physical requirements given in Table 2 when tested in accordance with the test methods specified therein.

Characteristic	Type of lining			Test method
	Woven synthetic and their blend	Warp knitted synthetic and their blend	Woven cellulosic	
Mass per unit area, free from filling, g/m ² , min.	60	85	100	ISO 3801 ISO 9073-1
Filling content, %, max.	10	10	10	EAS 257
Breaking strength, N, min. a) Warp b) Weft	 300 300	 — —	 300 300	ISO 13934-1
Colour fastness to washing, min. • Change in colour • Staining	 4 3			ISO 105-C10
Colour fastness to rubbing, min • Dry • Wet	 4 3			ISO 105-X12
Colour fastness to light, min	5			ISO 105-B01 and ISO 105-B02

5 Packaging

Leather suitcases shall be packaged in suitable material so as to protect them from damage during transportation, storage and handling

6 Marking and labelling

6.1 leather suitcase

The following information shall be legibly and indelibly marked/labelled on leather suitcase:

- a) manufacture's name, address and/or trademark;

- b) colour;
- c) country of origin; and
- d) batch number.
- e) Size of suitcase
- f) Type of material

6.2 Bulk package

Each bulk package shall be legibly and indelibly labelled with the following information:

- a) manufacturer's name , address and/or trademark;
- b) number of leather suitcases; and
- c) country of origin.
- d) type of material

7 Sampling Sampling shall be done in accordance with ISO 2859-1

ANNEX A (Normative) Drop test (Life Performance)

Procedure

A leather suitcase of specified dimensions (see table A) is loaded with relevant personal items of mass (8 – 25 kg) collated with the size of bag. The loaded bag dropped from the edge of a bench, 1-metre-high, to a flat floor. The drop test is repeated 10 times. After the test, the tested bag is examined; the stitches and seams shall not open and the locks, handles and carrier assembly, shall not break or come out of their positions.

Table A: Preferred leather suitcase dimensions related to carrying capacity

Category of size	Preferred suitcase dimensions and carrying capacity			
	Length, cm	Width, cm	Depth, cm	Carrying capacity, kg
1	49.5 – 51.27	14.5 – 16.73	14.5 - 16	8 – 9.13
2	51.27 – 53.92	16.73 – 20.08	16 – 18.25	9.13 – 10.83
3	53.92 – 58.34	20.08 – 26.66	18.25 – 22.6	10.83 – 13.66

4	58.34 – 65.11	26.66 – 35.22	22.6 – 28.35	13.66 - 18
5	65.11 - 76	35.22 - 48	28.35 - 37	18 - 25

ANNEX B
(Normative)
Handle attachment strength

1 The leather suitcase shall be securely fixed in an inverted position on a rigid support, leading the handle free for applying the load. The handle shall be suitably harnessed to distribute the load applied over the entire handle. A load of 100 N (10 Kgf) shall be applied suddenly to the handle and repeated 10 times.

2 The weight may be applied either by means of a spring balance or weights, suitable placed on stirrup. During or after the test, the handles shall not have snapped or shall not have loosened in fittings.

ANNEX C
(Normative)
Determination of Dimensions

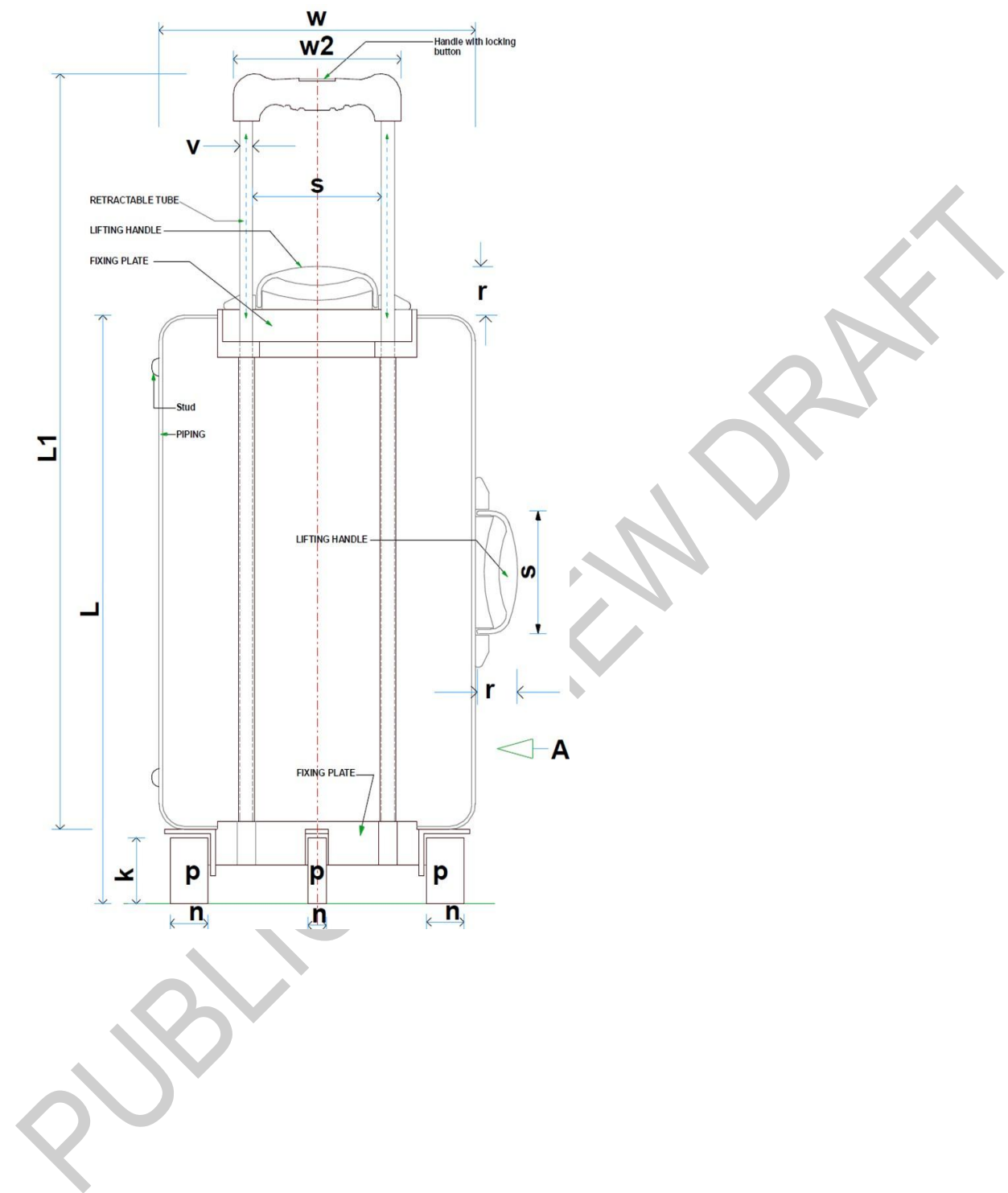
A1 Determine the dimensions of the suitcase \as specified in A1, A2. A3 and A4 by use of a steel rule and Vernier calliper under standard laboratory testing conditions. For details See Figures 1, 2,3 and 4

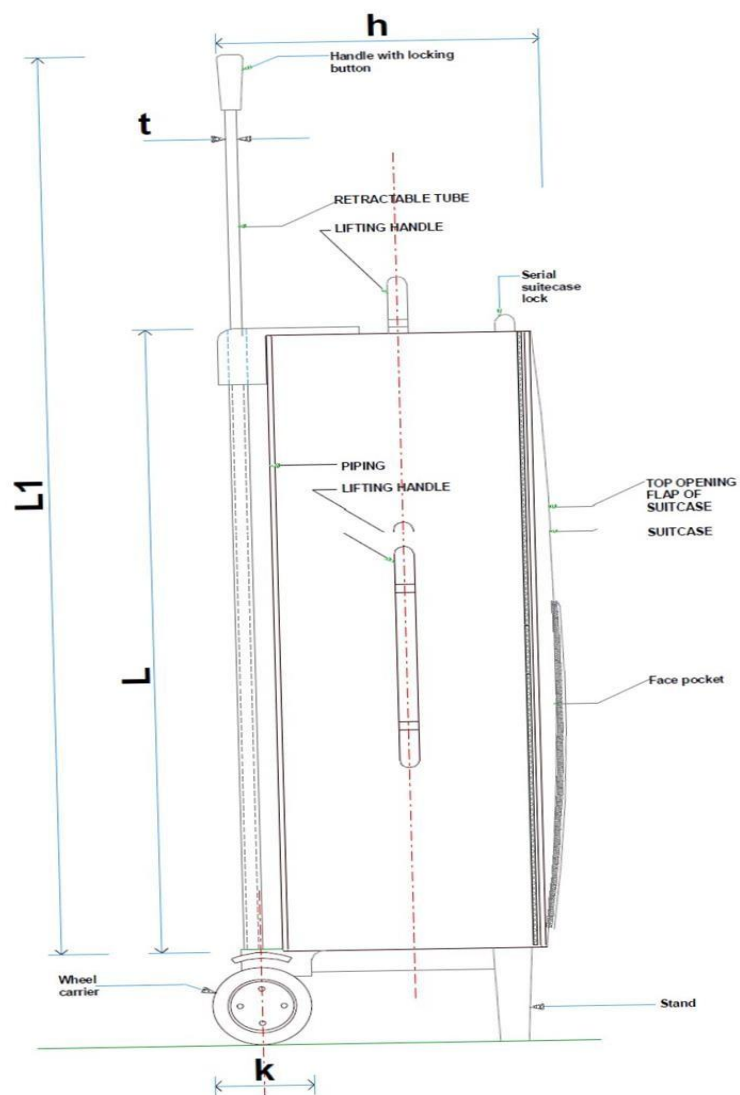
A2 Apparatus

Steel rule and Vernier calliper.

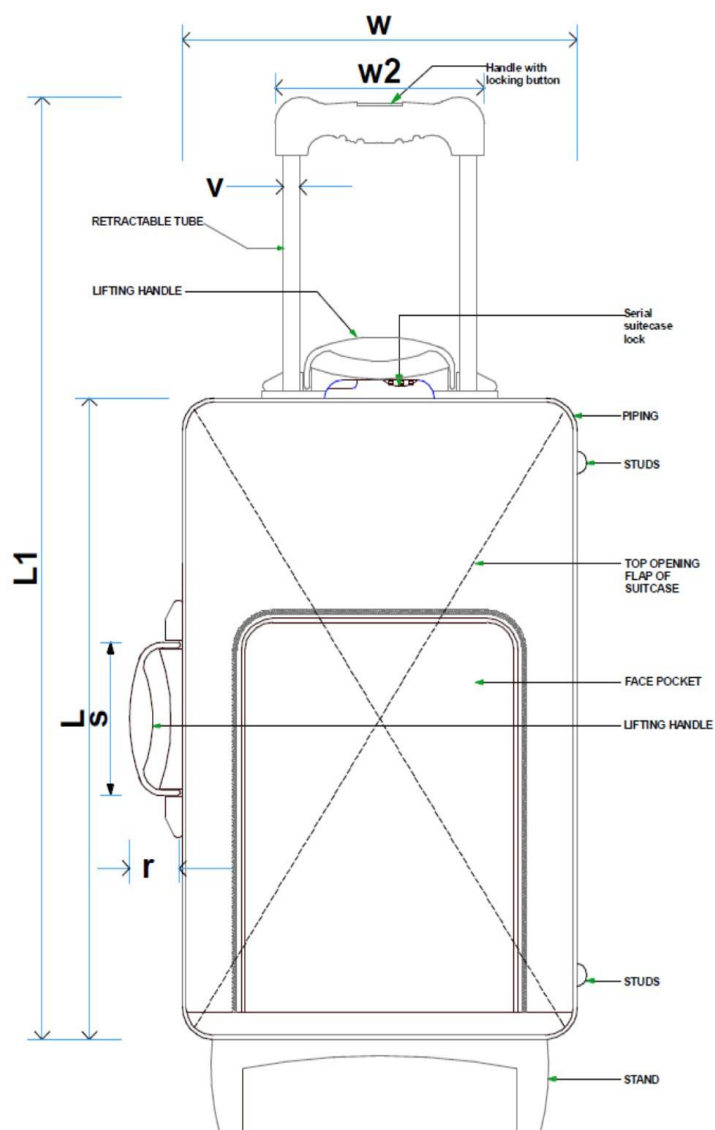
A3 Testing Condition.

The testing shall be done under the Standard Laboratory testing Condition.





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Key

L – Suitcase Length

W – Suitcase width

W₂ – Carrier assembly width

L_1 – Carrier assembly length

S – Lifting handle

K – Wheel diameter

N – Wheel width

V – Tube width

P – Carrier width

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- [1] IS 7954: 1976 specification for suitcases
- [2] TZS3567-1;2023 Textiles – Travelling Bags – Part 1: Suitcase type – Specification

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