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Light gauge metal containers — Easy-open ends and peel-off ends — Classification and dimensions

Récipients métalliques légers — Ouvertures faciles et extrémités détachables — Classification et dimensions

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Foreword

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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).

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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 52, *Light gauge metal 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.

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Introduction

Metal cans are important packaging for the food industry, as they provide a long shelf life for food and beverage products. They are used for canning vegetables and meat, as well as beer and carbonated drinks. The pull tab for beverage cans was invented in 1959 and easy-open ends with the pull tab have been included with various types of metal cans since the 1960s. The easy-open end solves the problem of how to open the can and is convenient and instant, which is what customers demand. It also allows more products (e.g. soup, juice, coffee) to be stored in metal packaging. There are many advantages to using metal cans such as strength, good sealing capacity and easy storage, and they are a convenient way to transport seasonal food and beverages around the world.

A large number of easy-open ends and peel-off ends are produced every year, and they have become an important part of the can manufacture industry. Along with thinner and lighter demands for metal food packaging, softer aluminium peel-off ends have been developed for use in some food cans and powder cans. They have improved the convenience and safety of opening the metal cans.

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Light gauge metal containers — Easy-open ends and peel-off ends — Classification and dimensions

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1 Scope

This document specifies classification and the key dimensions of easy-open ends and peel-off ends.

This document is applicable to the manufacture and sale of easy-open ends and peel-off ends for food and beverages made of metal plates such as tin, chromium coated steel plates or aluminium alloy plates with a thickness of no more than 0,49 mm.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
easy-open end
end comprised of a sheet metal made of aluminium alloy, electrolytic tinplate or electrolytic chromium/chromium oxide coated steel, with a score line, and a tab attached by rivet for easy opening

3.2
peel-off end
end comprised of a metal ring and a film, which film is heat sealed onto the ring

4 Classification

4.1 Easy-open ends

Easy-open ends comprise:

a) round easy-open ends, see Figure 1 a) for a top view, which comprise:
   1) round easy-open ends for food cans;
   2) round easy-open ends for beverage cans;
   3) round easy-open ends for solid food cans;

b) non-round easy-open ends, which comprise:
   1) rectangular and square easy-open ends, see Figure 1 b) for a top view;
   2) oval easy-open ends, see Figure 1 c) for a top view;
   3) trapezoidal easy-open ends, see Figure 1 d) for a top view;

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