

RAUDTEEALASED RAKENDUSED. RAUDTEEVEEREM.  
PUHVRID

Railway applications - Railway rolling stock - Buffers



## ESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN 15551:2022 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 15551:2022 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN 15551:2022 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 15551:2022.
Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas.	This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.
Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 31.08.2022.	Date of Availability of the European standard is 31.08.2022.
Standard on kättesaadav Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusest.	The standard is available from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.

Tagasisidet standardi sisu kohta on võimalik edastada, kasutades EVS-i veebilehel asuvat tagasiside vormi või saates e-kirja meiliaadressile [standardiosakond@evs.ee](mailto:standardiosakond@evs.ee).

ICS 45.060.01

Standardite reproduutseerimise ja levitamise õigus kuulub Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusele  
Andmete paljundamine, taastekitamine, kopeerimine, salvestamine elektroonsesse süsteemi või edastamine ükskõik millises vormis või millisel teel ilma Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskuse kirjaliku loata on keelatud.

Kui Teil on küsimusi standardite autorikaitse kohta, võtke palun ühendust Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusega:  
Koduleht [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); telefon 605 5050; e-post [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

The right to reproduce and distribute standards belongs to the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation  
No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without a written permission from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.

If you have any questions about copyright, please contact Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation:  
Homepage [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); phone +372 605 5050; e-mail [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

EUROPEAN STANDARD  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN 15551

August 2022

ICS 45.060.01

Supersedes EN 15551:2017

English Version

Railway applications - Railway rolling stock - Buffers

Applications ferroviaires - Wagons - Tampons

Bahnanwendungen - Schienenfahrzeuge - Puffer

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 10 July 2022.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

Contents	Page
<b>European foreword</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1 Scope</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>4 Classification and designation</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.1 General</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.2 Buffers with buffer stroke 105 mm (Categories A, B and C)</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.3 Buffers with buffer stroke 110 mm</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.4 Long stroke buffer 150 mm</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.5 Crashworthy Buffers</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>5 Requirements</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.1 General</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.2 Fixing on vehicle and interchangeability</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.3 Buffer dimensions</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5.4 Mechanical characteristics of buffers</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5.5 Elastic systems</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>5.5.1 Types of elastic systems</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>5.5.2 Static characteristics</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>5.5.3 Dynamic characteristics</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>5.6 Marking</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>6 Housing</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>6.1 Plunger and base</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>6.2 Buffer head</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>6.2.1 Materials</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>6.2.2 Standard dimensions of buffer head</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>6.3 Type and series tests</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>7 Crashworthy buffers</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>7.1 On wagons</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>7.2 On other vehicles</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Annex A (normative) Maximum space envelope of buffer</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>A.1 Requirements for space envelope of buffer</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>A.1.1 Buffers for freight wagons</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>A.1.2 Buffers for coaches</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>A.2 Notes on the definition envelopes for overall dimensions of Buffers for freight wagons</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>A.2.1 General</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>A.2.2 Study relating to definition of the envelope</b>	<b>32</b>

<b>Annex B (normative) Mechanical characteristics of buffers - Test methods .....</b>	<b>34</b>
B.1 General .....	34
B.2 Test methodology .....	34
B.2.1 General .....	34
B.2.2 Force F1 .....	35
B.2.3 Force F2 .....	35
B.2.4 Force F3 .....	35
B.2.5 Force F4 .....	35
B.2.6 Force F5 .....	35
B.2.7 Force F6 .....	36
B.3 Test documentation .....	36
<b>Annex C (normative) Requirements for elastic systems .....</b>	<b>38</b>
C.1 Rubber elastomer or other elastomer elastic systems .....	38
C.1.1 General .....	38
C.1.2 Metal inserts .....	38
C.1.3 Constituents of rubber elastomer and/ or elastomer systems .....	38
C.1.4 Static characteristics of the spring sets .....	40
C.1.5 Dynamic characteristics of the spring sets .....	40
C.1.6 Bonding .....	40
C.1.7 Marking .....	40
C.1.8 Inspection and tests .....	40
C.2 Friction spring/ ring spring .....	42
C.2.1 Manufacturer's marks .....	42
C.2.2 Flexibility test .....	42
C.2.3 Endurance test .....	43
C.2.4 Static characteristics for friction spring/ ring spring .....	43
C.2.5 Dynamic characteristics for friction spring/ ring spring .....	43
C.3 Hydrodynamic or hydrostatic systems .....	43
C.3.1 General .....	43
C.3.2 Absorbing energy medium .....	44
C.3.3 Static test of capsules .....	44
C.4 Combined elastic systems .....	45
<b>Annex D (normative) Testing of static characteristics of buffers .....</b>	<b>46</b>
D.1 Test principle .....	46
D.2 Test procedure .....	46
D.3 Measurements .....	46

<b>Annex E (normative) Dynamic testing.....</b>	<b>47</b>
E.1    Dynamic testing of buffer .....	47
E.1.1 General.....	47
E.1.2 Temperature effects.....	49
E.2    Dynamic characteristics of 105 mm stroke buffer.....	49
E.2.1 Test programme .....	49
E.2.2 Tests for Category A to C.....	51
E.2.3 Summary of Tests on Category A to C.....	53
E.2.4 Comments on the test conditions .....	54
E.3    Dynamic characteristics of 150 mm stroke buffer.....	54
E.3.1 General.....	54
E.3.2 Comments on test conditions.....	55
E.4    Dynamic characteristics of 110 mm stroke buffers.....	55
<b>Annex F (normative) Endurance testing under service load for elastic system.....</b>	<b>57</b>
F.1    Aim of the test.....	57
F.2    Test principle.....	57
F.3    Test results to be obtained .....	57
F.4    Test procedure .....	58
F.4.1 Endurance test assembly.....	58
F.4.2 Preliminary test.....	58
F.4.3 Endurance test .....	59
F.4.4 Final static test .....	59
<b>Annex G (normative) Endurance testing under buffing load for life cycle simulation .....</b>	<b>60</b>
G.1    Endurance tests for elastic systems for freight wagons.....	60
G.1.1 Aim of the test.....	60
G.1.2 Test principle.....	60
G.1.3 Test results to be obtained .....	60
G.1.4 Test procedure .....	60
G.1.5 Delivery of elastic systems.....	62
G.2    Endurance test for elastic system for coaches.....	63
G.2.1 General.....	63
G.2.2 Tests under alternating loads.....	63
G.2.3 Repeated buffing tests.....	64
G.2.4 Conditions to be observed .....	64
<b>Annex H (informative) Guidelines for buffer head materials .....</b>	<b>65</b>
H.1    Example of test programme requirements for verification of buffer head materials .....	65

<b>H.2</b>	<b>Buffer head materials.....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Annex I (normative) Crashworthy buffers for tank wagons .....</b>		<b>68</b>
<b>I.1</b>	<b>Requirements for crashworthy buffers.....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>I.1.1</b>	<b>Objectives .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>I.1.2</b>	<b>Additional requirements .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>I.2</b>	<b>Test procedure for crashworthy buffers.....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Annex J (normative) Maximum space envelope of crashworthy buffers .....</b>		<b>70</b>
<b>Annex ZA (informative) Relationship between this European Standard and the Essential requirements of EU Directive 2016/797/EC aimed to be covered.....</b>		<b>73</b>
<b>Bibliography .....</b>		<b>75</b>

## European foreword

This document (EN 15551:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 256 "Railway applications", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2023, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2023.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 15551:2017.

Compared with EN 15551:2017 the following main changes have been done:

- a) Redrawn of the following Figures:
  - 1) Figure 2 — Fixing dimensions of 105 mm stroke and 150 mm stroke buffers for interchangeability;
  - 2) Figure F.1 — Definition of heights;
  - 3) Figure F.2 — Representation of the stored energy;
  - 4) Figure F.3 — Endurance test under service load;
  - 5) Figure G.1 — Determination of buffer strokes for endurance test;
- b) Adaption of this document in relation to the intersection contents on EN 16839:
  - 1) Adaption of the Scope;
  - 2) Deleting of 4.6 "Interaction coupling/buffer";
  - 3) Adaption on 5.1 "General";
  - 4) Figure 2 — Mounting of buffers with non-metallic insert or head (top view for freight wagons) is deleted
  - 5) Deleting of 6.2.2 "Boundary dimensions";
  - 6) Adaption on 6.2.3.1 "General" and 6.2.3.2 "Buffers with stroke of 105 mm...";
  - 7) The former Table 6 about standard width have been exported to EN 16839.
  - 8) Deleting of Annex I "Calculation of the width of buffer heads".
- c) editorial modifications.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission, and it aims to support essential or other requirements of EU Directive(s) or Regulation(s).

For relationship with EU Directive(s) or Regulation(s), see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

## Introduction

This document is based on UIC 526-1:2008, UIC 526-3:2008, UIC 528:2007, UIC 573:2007, UIC 827-1:1990 and UIC 827-2:1981.

## 1 Scope

This document defines the requirements for buffers with 105 mm, 110 mm and 150 mm stroke for vehicles or units which use buffers and screw coupling. It covers the functionality, interfaces and testing procedures, including pass fail criteria, for buffers.

**NOTE 1** Typically, buffers with a stroke of 105 mm are used on freight wagons and locomotives, buffers with a stroke of 110 mm are used on coaches and locomotives and buffers with a stroke of 150 mm are used on freight wagons.

It defines the different categories of buffers, the space envelope, static and dynamic characteristics and energy absorption.

It defines the static and dynamic characteristics of the elastic systems.

It also defines the requirements for buffers with integrated crash elements (crashworthy buffers) for tank wagons for dangerous goods.

The requirements of this document also apply to buffers of locomotives and passenger coaches which are bound to meet the crashworthiness requirements of EN 15227 for normal service only. The properties for the energy absorbing function are defined in EN 15227 and the requirements specified in Clause 7 for tank wagons for dangerous goods are not applicable to the buffers of these locomotives and passenger coaches.

Diagonal buffers are excluded from this document.

For the crashworthy buffers of locomotives, driving trailer or passenger coaches according to EN 15227, and tank wagons for dangerous goods or buffers which form part of a combined system consisting of a special buffer and a deformation element, interchangeability with freight wagon buffers is not required, and therefore the requirements of 5.3 (Buffer dimensions) do not apply, those of 5.4 (Mechanical characteristics of buffers) and 5.6 (Marking) apply with restrictions.

**NOTE 2** For tank wagons subjected to dangerous goods regulation see [41].

Provisions going beyond the scope of this document may be agreed in the Technical Specification. The Technical Specification is not a mandatory document.

## 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.

EN 1370:2011, *Founding - Examination of surface condition*

EN 10025-2:2019, *Hot rolled products of structural steels - Part 2: Technical delivery conditions for non-alloy structural steels*

EN 10168:2004, *Steel products - Inspection documents - List of information and description*

EN 10204:2004, *Metallic products - Types of inspection documents*

EN 12663-2:2010, *Railway applications - Structural requirements of railway vehicle bodies - Part 2: Freight wagons*

EN 15227:2020, *Railway applications - Crashworthiness requirements for rail vehicles*

EN 16839:2022, *Railway applications — Rolling stock — Head stock layout*

EN ISO 148-1:2016, *Metallic materials - Charpy pendulum impact test - Part 1: Test method (ISO 148-1:2016)*

EN ISO 148-2:2016, *Metallic materials - Charpy pendulum impact test - Part 2: Verification of testing machines (ISO 148-2:2016)*

EN ISO 148-3:2016, *Metallic materials - Charpy pendulum impact test - Part 3: Preparation and characterization of Charpy V-notch test pieces for indirect verification of pendulum impact machines (ISO 148-3:2016)*

EN ISO 868:2003, *Plastics and ebonite - Determination of indentation hardness by means of a durometer (Shore hardness) (ISO 868:2003)*

EN ISO 6507-1:2018, *Metallic materials - Vickers hardness test - Part 1: Test method (ISO 6507-1:2018)*

EN ISO 6507-2:2018, *Metallic materials - Vickers hardness test - Part 2: Verification and calibration of testing machines (ISO 6507-2:2018)*

EN ISO 6507-3:2018, *Metallic materials - Vickers hardness test - Part 3: Calibration of reference blocks (ISO 6507-3:2018)*

EN ISO 6507-4:2018, *Metallic materials - Vickers hardness test - Part 4: Tables of hardness values (ISO 6507-4:2018)*

EN ISO 6892-1:2019, *Metallic materials - Tensile testing - Part 1: Method of test at room temperature (ISO 6892-1:2019)*

EN ISO 11469:2016, *Plastics - Generic identification and marking of plastics products (ISO 11469:2016)*

ISO 37:2017, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of tensile stress-strain properties*

ISO 48:2018, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of hardness (hardness between 10 IRHD and 100 IRHD)*

ISO 188:2011, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Accelerated ageing and heat resistance tests*

ISO 815-1:2019, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of compression set — Part 1: At ambient or elevated temperatures*

ISO 815-2:2019, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of compression set — Part 2: At low temperatures*