

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**SAA PACKAGING CODE**

**Part 9.2—METAL CONTAINERS—  
STEEL DRUMS**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee PK/25, Packaging Code. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 21 January 1988 and published on 5 April 1988.

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The following interests are represented on Committee PK/25:

Adhesives and Sealants Manufacturers Association of Australia  
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Association of Australia Ltd  
Ansett Airlines of Australia  
Australian Institute of Packaging  
Australian Timber Producers Council  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Association's Packaging Code Committee under the direction of the Packaging Standards Board, as a further Standard of the AS 2400 series, *SAA Packaging Code*.

The aim of this Standard is to provide general information on the materials and types of steel drums.

It is intended for operators who are contemplating the use of steel drums for the first time or who wish to be introduced to the technology and economics of this industry. For those readers who wish to delve deeper, it will provide a useful basis for communication with the suppliers.

The *SAA Packaging Code* has been divided into different parts dealing with specific subjects, as follows:

<i>Part</i>	<i>Title</i>
1	<i>Glossary of packaging terms</i>
2	<i>Basic principles of packaging practice</i>
3	<i>Mechanical aids in package handling</i>
4	<i>Protection against spoilage of packages and their contents by microorganisms, insects, mites and rodents</i>
5	<i>Metal protection*</i>
6	<i>Paper and paperboards</i>
7	<i>Timber containers*</i>
8	<i>Textile bags, sacks and wrappings*</i>
9	<i>Metal containers*</i>
	<i>9.1 Metal cans and tubes*</i>
10	<i>Protection against shock and vibration (cushioning)</i>
11	<i>Cordage*</i>
12	<i>Adhesive closing and sealing tapes</i>
13	<i>Tensional strapping</i>
14	<i>Adhesives</i>
15	<i>Glass containers</i>
16	<i>Flexible packaging</i>
17	<i>Packaging in plastics containers</i>
18	<i>Use of desiccants in packaging</i>
19	<i>Packaging for airfreight</i>
20	<i>Handling of goods in freight containers</i>
21	<i>Packaging of dangerous goods</i>
22	<i>Closures</i>
23	<i>Shrink and stretch wrapping</i>

During the preparation of the *SAA Packaging Code*, reference was made to BS 1133, *Packaging Code*, and the assistance obtained from this source is acknowledged.

The following Standards may be of relevance:

AS	
2348	<i>Guide to the determination of optimum dimensions of packages for unit load handling</i>
2583	<i>Complete, filled transport packages —Distribution trials—Information to be recorded</i>
2584	<i>Complete, filled transport packages —General rules for the compilation of performance schedules</i>
	<i>Part 1—General principles (AS 2584.1)</i>
	<i>Part 2—Quantitative data (AS 2584.2)</i>

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\* Not yet published.

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**Australian Standard**  
**SAA PACKAGING CODE**

**PART 9.2: METAL CONTAINERS—STEEL DRUMS**

**1 SCOPE.** This Standard provides guidance on choice of steel drums for packaging of powders, solids, pastes and liquids with 20 L to 205 L capacity. For the purpose of this Standard, the term drum also includes containers commonly called pails.

**2 APPLICATION.** Steel drums are particularly suitable for reuse or for modes of transport where rough handling is likely to occur. Performance requirements are specified in AS 2905. Steel drums may be used for the transport of dangerous goods if approved in accordance with the requirements of the legislation applicable to the chosen mode of transport. Guidelines are given in AS 2400.21. The development of a packaging system incorporating steel drums should be based on principles given in AS 2400.2. Performance of the developed packaging system should be verified by the tests specified in AS 2582.

**3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.** The documents below are referred to in this Standard:

- AS  
1365 Tolerances for hot-rolled and cold-rolled unalloyed low carbon steels (coils and cut lengths)  
1517 Tinplate and blackplate  
Part 1: Sheet (AS 1517.1)  
Part 2: Coil (AS 1517.2)

- 1595 Cold-rolled unalloyed low carbon steel sheet and strip  
2400 SAA Packaging Code  
Part 1: Glossary of packaging terms (AS 2400.1)  
Part 2: Basic principles of packaging practice (AS 2400.2)  
Part 17: Packaging in plastic containers (AS 2400.17)  
Part 21: Packaging of dangerous goods (AS 2400.21)  
2582 Complete, filled transport packages — Methods of Test  
Method 1: Identification of parts when testing (AS 2582.1)  
Method 2: Conditioning for testing (AS 2582.2)  
Method 3: Stacking, compression test (AS 2582.3)  
Method 4: Vertical impact test by dropping (AS 2582.4)  
2905 Steel drums

**4 DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this Standard the definitions given in AS 2400.1 and AS 2905 apply. Some are represented in Figure 1.

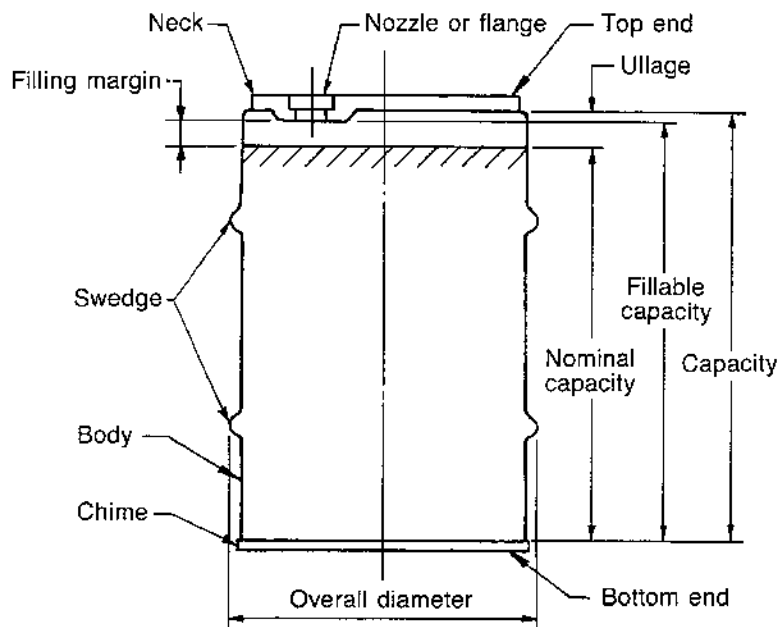


FIGURE 1. DRUM TECHNOLOGY