

A. Size code designation

The two alphanumeric characters used to designate the size code of the container are chosen as follows:

- first character, representing the length, in accordance with table 1;
- second character, representing the width and height, in accordance with table 2.

Table 1 - first SIZE-CODE character

Container length			Code character
mm	ft	in	
2 991	10		1
6 068	20		2
9 125	30		3
12 192	40		4
unassigned			5
unassigned			6
unassigned			7
unassigned			8
unassigned			9
7 150			A
7 315	24		B
7 430	24	6	C
7 450	-		D
7 820	-		E
8 100	-		F
12 500	41		G
13 106	43		H
13 600	-		K
13 716	45		L
14 630	48		M
14 935	49		N
16 154	-		P
unassigned			R

Table 2 - Second SIZE-CODE character

Container height			Code character		
			Container width		
mm	ft	in (8 ft)	2436 mm	> 2438 mm and ≤ 2500 mm	> 2500 mm
2438	8		0		
2591	8	6	2	C	L
2743	9		4	D	M
2895	9	6	5	E	N
> 2895	> 9	6	6	F	P
1295	4	3	8		
< 1219	< 4		9		

B. Type code designation

IMPORTANT

ISO 6346 AMENDMENT 3

Warning: new container type code using an alpha character in the 4th position of the size-type code indicates a container of reduced strength. (See detailed type code 'b').

1. The following table gives the codes to identify the Container type and other characteristics related to its type, for the purpose of preparing container fleet/stock inventory or for exchange of operational data. The detailed type code list does not cover all the possible characteristics of any type of container. Indeed for some types, individual categories have not been listed at all, as it is considered that further detailed study is necessary before a satisfactory breakdown can be agreed.

2. Where alternative unassigned code numbers exist and where a code number is desired for a container having important characteristics not mentioned in the table below, it is recommended that the highest unassigned number in the appropriate block be used, pending further allocation of code numbers by the concerned ISO/TC 104 subcommittees.

3. Where other characteristics related to the container type are unspecified or unknown, the container type shall be identified by its group code as indicated in the column "Type group code designation".

Code	Type designation	Type group code	Main characteristics	Detailed type code ^a	Detailed type code ^b	
G	General purpose container	GP	Opening(s) at one end or both ends	G0	GA	
G	Without ventilation		Passive vents at upper part of cargo space	G1	GB	
G			Opening(s) at one or both ends plus "full" opening(s) on one or both sides	G2	GD	
G			Opening(s) at one or both ends plus "partial" opening(s) on one or both sides	G3	GG	
G			(unassigned)	G4	GJ	
G			(unassigned)	G5	GM	
G			(unassigned)	G6	GV	
G			(unassigned)	G7	GW	
G			(unassigned)	G8	GX	
G			(unassigned)	G9	GY	
V	General purpose container with ventilation		VH	Non mechanical system, vents at lower and upper parts of cargo space	V0	VA
V				(unassigned)	V1	VB
V				Mechanical ventilation system, located internally	V2	VD
V				(unassigned)	V3	VG
V				Mechanical ventilation system, located externally	V4	VJ
V		(unassigned)		V5	VM	
V		(unassigned)		V6	VV	
V		(unassigned)		V7	VW	
V		(unassigned)		V8	VX	
V		(unassigned)		V9	VY	
B	Dry bulk cargo					

Code	Type designation	Type group code	Main characteristics	Detailed type code ^a	Detailed type code ^b
B	Non-pressurized, box type	BU	Closed	B0	BA
B			Airtight	B1	BB
B			(unassigned)	B2	BD
B			Rear discharge/cat flap type	B3	BG
B			Rear discharge/full width opening	B4	BJ
B			Rear discharge/full width fixed	B5	BM
B			(unassigned)	B6	BV
B			(unassigned)	B7	BW
B			Front discharge/full width	B8	BX
B			Side discharge	B9	BY
S	Named cargo	SN	Livestock carrier	S0	SA
S			Automotive carrier	S1	SB
S			Live fish carrier	S2	SD
S			(unassigned)	S3	SG
S			Generator	S4	SJ
S			(unassigned)	S5	SM
S			(unassigned)	S6	SV
S			(unassigned)	S7	SW
S			(unassigned)	S8	SX
S			(unassigned)	S9	SY
R	Thermal container				
R	Refrigerated	RE	Mechanically refrigerated	R0	RA
R	Refrigerated and heated	RT	Mechanically refrigerated and heated	R1	RB
R	Self-powered	RS	Mechanically refrigerated	R2	RD
R			Mechanically refrigerated and heated	R3	RG
R			(unassigned)	R4	RJ
R			(unassigned)	R5	RM
R			(unassigned)	R6	RV
R			(unassigned)	R7	RW
R			(unassigned)	R8	RX
R			(unassigned)	R9	RY
H	Thermal container				
H	Refrigerated and/or heated with removable equipment	HR	Refrigerated and/or heated with removable equipment located externally, heat transfer coefficient $K = 0,4 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K})$	H0	HA
H			Refrigerated and/or heated with removable equipment located internally	H1	HB
H			Refrigerated and/or heated with removable equipment located externally, heat transfer coefficient $K = 0,7 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K})$	H2	HD
H			(unassigned)	H3	HG
H			(unassigned)	H4	HJ
H	Insulated	HI	Insulated; heat transfer coefficient $K = 0,4 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K})$	H5	HM
H			Insulated; heat transfer coefficient $K = 0 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K})$	H6	HV
H			(unassigned)	H7	HW
H			(unassigned)	H8	HX
H			(unassigned)	H9	HY
U	Open-top container	UT	Opening(s) at one or both ends	U0	UA
U			Opening(s) at one or both ends, plus removable top member(s) in end frames	U1	UB
U			Opening(s) at one or both ends, plus opening(s) on one or both sides	U2	UD
U			Opening(s) at one or both ends, plus opening(s) on one or both sides plus removable top member(s) in end frames	U3	UG
U			Opening(s) at one or both ends, plus partial opening on one side and full opening on the other side	U4	UJ
U			(unassigned)	U5	UM
U			Open topped container with removable hard top	U6	UV
U			(unassigned)	U7	UW
U			(unassigned)	U8	UX
U			Coil carrier	U9	UY
P	Platform (container)	PL	Platform (container)	P0	PA
P	Platform-based container with incomplete superstructure:				
P	Fixed	PF	Two complete and fixed ends	P1	PB
P			Fixed posts, either freestanding or with removable top member	P2	PD
P	Folding (collapsible)	PC	Folding complete end structure	P3	PG
P			Folding posts, either freestanding or with removable top member	P4	PJ
P					
P	Platform-based container with complete superstructure	PS	Open top, open ends (skeletal)	P5	PM
P	Platform-based container for named cargo	PT	Ship's gear carrier	P6	PV
P			Car carrier	P7	PW
P			Timber/pipe carrier	P8	PX
P			Coil carrier	P9	PY

Code	Type designation	Type group code	Main characteristics	Detailed type code ^a	Detailed type code ^b
K	Pressurized tank container (liquids and gases)				
K		KL	Liquid tank non-regulated goods	K0	KA
K			Liquid tank dangerous goods $\leq 2,65$ bar ^c pressure	K1	KB
K			Liquid tank dangerous goods $>2,65$ bar ^c and ≤ 10 bar ^c pressure	K2	KD
K			Liquid tank dangerous goods > 10 bar ^c high pressure	K3	KG
K			Liquid tank non regulated goods requiring power supply	K4	KJ
K			Liquid tank for dangerous goods ≤ 10 bar ^c requiring power supply	K5	KM
K			Liquid tank for dangerous goods > 10 bar ^c pressure requiring power supply	K6	KV
K			Cryogenic tank	K7	KW
K			Gas tank	K8	KX
K			(unassigned)	K9	KY
N	Pressurized and non-pressurized tank container (dry)				
N		NH	Hopper type vertical discharge	N0	NA
N			Hopper type rear discharge	N1	NB
N			(unassigned)	N2	ND
N		NN	Non pressurized rear discharge	N3	NG
N			Non-pressurized side discharge	N4	NJ
N			Non-pressurized tipping discharge	N5	NM
N			(unassigned)	N6	NV
N			Pressurized rear discharge	N7	NW
N			Pressurized side discharge	N8	NX
N			Pressurized tipping discharge	N9	NL
A	Air/surface container	AS			A0

a) For containers designed and tested with full stacking (minimum superimposed mass of 213.360 kg) and racking (minimum transverse force of 150 kN) capabilities. Superimposed mass is as defined in ISO 1496-1:1990.

b) This includes containers designed and tested with reduced stacking and/or racking capabilities, but not containers that are approved or operated with one door off or otherwise operated with a temporary reduced capability.

c) $100 \text{ kPa} = 1 \text{ bar} = 105 \text{ Pa} = 105 \text{ N/m}^2 = 14.5 \text{ lbf/in}^2$

The text taken from ISO 6346:1995/Amd 3:2012, is reproduced with the permission of the International Organization for Standardization, ISO. This standard can be obtained from any ISO member and from the Web site of the ISO Central Secretariat at the following address: www.iso.org. Copyright remains with ISO.