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## DRAFT EAST AFRICAN STANDARD

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**Belts Specification: Part 1 - Leather**

Working Draft

**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

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East African Community  
P.O. Box 1096,  
Arusha  
Tanzania  
Tel: + 255 27 2162100  
Fax: + 255 27 2162190  
E-mail: [eac@eachq.org](mailto:eac@eachq.org)  
Web: [www.eac-quality.net](http://www.eac-quality.net)

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## 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

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

## Belts Specification: Part 1 - Leather

### 1 Scope

This Draft East African Standard specifies the requirements, sampling and test methods for leather belts. This Draft Standard does not cover belts made from other materials apart from leather

### 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 3379:2015 *Leather — Determination of distension and strength of surface (Ball burst method)*

ISO 4045:2018 *Leather — Chemical tests — Determination of pH and difference figure*

ISO 11640:2018 *Leather — Tests for colour fastness — Colour fastness to cycles of to-and-fro rubbing*

ISO 3376:2020 *Leather — Physical and mechanical tests — Determination of tensile strength and percentage elongation*

ISO 11644:2022 *Leather — Test for adhesion of finish*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions shall apply:

#### 3.1 Acceptable

acceptable to the parties concluding the purchase contract, but in relation to the standardization mark and to inspections carried out by the Bureau, acceptable to the East Africa Standards

#### 3.2 Belt

A strip of leather or material worn around the waist to support cloth or for decoration

#### 3.3 Leather

It's a material made from skins/hides of an animal by tanning

#### 3.4 Tanning

Process of converting hides/skins from putrescible (liable to decay) to non-putrescible material

## 4 Requirements

### 4.1 General Requirements

#### 4.1.1 Leather

The leather shall be free from defects and comply with requirements specified in Table 1.

#### 4.1.2 Sewing threads

. The sewing threads should be of acceptable quality

#### 4.1.3 Metal components

##### 4.1.3.1 General

All metal components, whether functional or decorative, shall be of an intrinsically corrosion-resistant metal or shall have been coated to render them resistant to corrosion. They shall be of adequate size and strength for their intended function. Their design shall be such that, when closed, no sharp edges, prongs or decorative shapes protrude.

##### 4.1.3.2 Buckles

Buckles may have one or more prongs, or may be of the plain or roller type, or be slide buckles. The width of a buckle shall be such as to ensure an acceptable fit with the belt to which it is attached.

##### 4.1.3.3 Closure fittings

Spring-loaded closure fittings or clasps, when relevant, shall be as required, but shall be of acceptable design.

##### 4.1.3.4 Press studs

Press studs shall be of the male and female type and shall have a tenacious grip.

##### 4.1.3.5 Rivets

a) All rivets shall be securely and neatly attached and of sufficient length to allow the caps to be firmly clinched

#### 4.1.4 Type, design and size of belts

##### 4.1.4.1 Type

The belts shall be of one of the following types (or acceptable modifications of these types), as required:

- a) **Type A** — Belts of leather and of unlined construction, incorporating a buckle or a closure fitting.
- b) **Type B** — Belts of leather and lined with leather, incorporating a buckle or a closure fitting; or
- c) **Type C** — Belts of reversible construction, incorporating a buckle or a closure fitting.

Belts shall be supplied in sizes 87 cm, 92 cm, 97 cm, 102 cm, 107 cm or in other sizes, as agreed between the buyer and the seller

#### 4.1.5 Construction of Lining and interlining

4.1.5.1 Belts of type B shall be lined with leather that complies with the requirements of 4.1.1.

4.1.5.2 Belts of type B and of type C may be interlined with fabric or other acceptable interlining material.

#### 4.1.6 Strength of belts

Finished belts, when tested in accordance with 7.8 shall have a breaking strength of at least 400 N.

#### 4.1.7 Riveting

All rivets shall be securely and neatly attached and of sufficient length to allow the caps to be firmly clinched.

#### 4.1.9 Workmanship and finish

Workmanship and finish shall be in accordance with sound trade practice. Belts shall be clean, well made, and free from any defects that affect their appearance or that may affect their serviceability (or both). Sewing shall be uniform, and double rows of stitching shall be uniform unless intended to be otherwise.

### 4.2 specific requirements

#### 4.1.2 Leather material

The physical and chemical properties shall comply with the requirements given in Table 1, when tested in accordance with test methods specified therein.

**Table1-physical and chemical requirements for leather belts**

Property	Requirements	Test methods sub-clause
Shrinkage temperature, °C, min.	75	ISO 3379
Grease content (on a moisture-free basis), %	3.0 to 12.0	
pH value, min.	4.5-5.5	ISO 4045
Resistance to wet and dry rubbing after 50 rubs		
Grain side (all leathers), permissible colour change, rating, min.	4	ISO 11640
Flesh side (leather for type A belts only), permissible colour transfer, rating, min.	4	
Adhesion of finish, N, min.		
Dry	3.5	
Wet	2.0	ISO 11644
Tensile strength N/mm <sup>2</sup> min.	20	ISO 3376
Elongation at break %,	30 - 80	ISO 3376



## **5 Packaging**

The belts shall be packaged in individual suitable material and then so packaged, in suitable bulk containers, so as to protect them from damage during transportation and storage.

The belt shall be packed in suitable material so as to protect them from damage during transportation and storage.

## **6 Marking/ Labelling**

### **6.1 Individual Belts**

Each belt shall be neatly, legibly and indelibly marked with the following information:

- a) The manufacturer's name, trade name or trade mark;
- b) The batch identification;
- c) The size
- d) The country of origin
- e) The colour

### **6.2 Bulk Package**

The following information shall appear in neat, legible and indelible marking on the outside of each bulk container:

- a) The manufacturer's name, trade name or trade mark;
- b) the number of belts
- c) The country of origin

## Annex A

(normative)

### Methods of sampling and criteria for acceptance

#### A.1 Scale of sampling

**A.1.1** Samples shall be selected and examined for each lot separately for ascertaining the conformity of the belts to the requirements of this standard.

**A.1.2** A belt shall be considered to be of different lots if they differ in shape, colour, and design.

**A.1.3** The number of belts to be selected from any lot shall depend on the size of the lot and shall be in accordance with Columns 1 and 2 of Table A.1.

#### A.2 Method of selection

**A.2.1** belt to be selected from the lot shall be chosen at random. To ensure randomness the procedure in A.2.3 shall be used.

**A.2.2** When the belts in a lot are not packed in a number of cases (boxes), the sampling shall be as follows:

Starting from any belt in the lot, count the belts as 1,2, etc---up to  $r$  and so on in one order. Every  $r$  th piece thus counted shall be withdrawn to constitute a sample ( $r$  is the integral part of  $N/n$  where  $N$  is the lot size and  $n$  is the sample size). This procedure shall be stopped as soon as the required number of pieces is obtained.

For example, if a sample of 125 belts is to be selected from a lot of 3 000 belts, compute  $r$  as equal to integral part of  $3\ 000/125=24$ . Starting from any piece, the belt shall be counted in one order and every 24th piece shall be withdrawn.

**A.2.3** When the belts in a lot are packed in different cases (boxes), a suitable number of boxes (not less than 30 % of the total boxes in the lot) shall be first chosen at random. For each of the boxes so chosen, an approximately equal number of belts shall be picked up from its different parts so as to obtain the required number of belts. For example, if a lot consists of 1 000 belts packed in 50 boxes, each containing 20 belts, choose more than 15 boxes at random. If it is decided to open 20 boxes, then 4 belts shall be picked up from different parts of each of the 20 boxes to give a total of 80 pieces as specified in Table A.1.

**Table A.1 — Scale of sampling and permissible number of defects**

Number of belt s in a lot	Samples for visually observed defects (Pieces)	Permissible number of defectives (Pieces)	Sample size for laboratory testing (Pieces)	Permissible number of defects (Pieces)
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Up to 50	13	0	2	0
51 to 100	20	1	3	0
101 to 300	32	1	3	0
301 to 500	50	2	5	1
501 to 1 000	80	3	6	1
1 001 to 3 000	125	5	7	2
3 001 and above	200	7	8	3

### A.3 Defects

All randomly selected belts (Table A.1, Column 2) shall be inspected for visually observed defects, i.e:

- a) difference in shape, design and colour;
- b) distorted shapes;
- c) cracking defects;
- d) faulty jointing and adhesion ;
- e) broken stitches and incorrect stitching;
- f) Fasteners defects in buckles and studs;
- g) Grain damage;
- h) Broken threads ;
- i) finish not even and unpolished.

### A.4 Acceptance criteria

The number of defective belts shall not exceed the permissible number given in Table A.1, Column 3. If the number of defective pieces exceeds the permissible number of defectives, the lot shall be rejected.

In case the lot has been found satisfactory for visually observed defects, sample pieces for laboratory testing (Table A.1, Column 4) shall be taken from among those drawn (Table A.1, Column 2). The pieces shall be chosen at random and tested for dimensional, physical and chemical characteristics. If the number of defective belts is less than or equal to the corresponding permissible number of defectives given in Table A.1, Column 5, the lot shall be declared to have met the requirements of this standard. Otherwise, if the defective belt pieces are more than the corresponding permissible numbers of defectives, the lot shall be rejected.