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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 3874 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 104, *Freight containers*, Subcommittee SC 1, *General purpose containers*.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO 3874:1988), of which it constitutes a technical revision. It is planned that the physical and functional requirements for the securing devices will be attached as amendments to this International Standard, whereas the rationale for these requirements will be given in a type 3 Technical Report.

Annex A of this International Standard is for information only.