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## **DRAFT EAST AFRICAN STANDARD**

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### **Textiles — Baby nappies — Specification**

**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

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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 061, *Textiles, textile products and accessories*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (EAS 154: 2018), which has been technically revised.

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.

With regard to the first edition (EAS 154: 2018), the following changes have been made in this second edition:

- The title has been changed from “*Baby napkins — Specification*” to “*Textiles — Baby nappies — Specification*,”
- The categorisation of nappies, according to ‘light’ and ‘heavy’ has been removed;
- The test method for water absorption has been changed from ISO 9865 to ISO 20158;
- A parameter for bursting strength of the nappies has been introduced;
- The parameter on ‘threads per cm’ has been deleted to accommodate different types of construction; and
- The limitation on the use of only 100 % cotton fibres for making nappies was removed.

# Textiles — Baby nappies — Specification

## 1 Scope

This Draft East African Standard specifies requirements, sampling and test methods for baby nappies.

This standard is not applicable to baby diapers.

## 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.

EAS 256, *Method for determination of scouring loss in grey and finished cotton textile materials*

ISO 1833 (all parts), *Textiles — Quantitative chemical analysis*

ISO 2859-1, *Sampling procedures for inspection by attributes — Part 1: Sampling schemes indexed by acceptance quality limit (AQL) for lot-by-lot inspection*

ISO 3071, *Textiles — Determination of pH of aqueous extract*

ISO 3801, *Textiles — Woven fabrics — Determination of mass per unit length and mass per unit area*

ISO 7771, *Textiles — Determination of dimensional changes of fabrics induced by cold-water immersion*

ISO 13934-1, *Textiles — Tensile properties of fabrics — Part 1: Determination of maximum force and elongation at maximum force using the strip method*

ISO 13938-2, *Textiles — Bursting properties of fabrics — Part 2: Pneumatic method for determination of bursting strength and bursting distension*

ISO 20158, *Textiles — Determination of water absorption time and water absorption capacity of textile fabrics*

ISO 22198, *Textiles — Fabrics — Determination of width and length*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

**3.1 nappies**  
typical fabric-cloth absorbent aids designed to contain urine and faeces, keeping the baby clean, dry and comfortable

**3.2 diaper**  
absorbent aid, worn by infants or young children, designed to contain urine and faeces, keeping the baby clean, dry and comfortable

## 4 Requirements

### 4.1 General requirements

- 4.1.1** The selvages of baby nappies shall be firm, straight, even and not less than 4 mm wide.
- 4.1.2** Finished hems shall have a minimum depth of 4 mm, with the raw edges having a turn in of 4 mm before the hem is formed.
- 4.1.3** The sewing shall be of even tension and the ends finished securely and neatly. The number of stitches shall be not less than 32 per 10 cm.
- 4.1.4** Baby nappies shall be free from defects given in Annex A when visually examined.

### 4.2 Specific requirements

#### 4.2.1 Physical and performance requirements

Baby nappies shall comply with the physical and performance requirements given in Table 1 when tested in accordance with the test methods prescribed therein.

**Table 1 — Physical and performance requirements of baby nappies**

S/N	Parameter	Requirements	Test method
i	Mass in g/m <sup>2</sup> , min.	275	ISO 3801
ii	Breaking load (for woven fabrics in all directions), N, min.	350	ISO 13934-1
iii	Bursting strength (for knitted fabric), kPa, min.	200	ISO 13938-2
iv	pH	6 – 8.5	ISO 3071
v	Scouring loss, %, max.	3	EAS 256
vi	Dimensional change, %, max.	5	ISO 7771
vii	Absorbency rate, s, max.	4	ISO 20158
viii	Absorbency capacity	[To be provided during public review]	ISO 20158
ix	starch	No starch	Annex B

#### 4.2.2 Fibre composition

When tested in accordance with a relevant part of ISO 1833, the fibre composition of baby nappies shall comply with the declared composition.

### 4.2.3 Dimensions

The dimensions of baby nappies shall comply with the dimensions given in Table 2 when tested in accordance with ISO 22198.

**Table 2 — Dimensions for baby nappies**

S/No.	Size	Dimension, min.
i	Large	60 cm x 60 cm
ii	Medium	55 cm x 55 cm
iii	Small	50 cm x 50 cm

## 5 Packaging

**5.1** Baby napkins shall be supplied in packages made of suitable materials, which are sealed so as to protect them from moisture, soiling and contamination during storage and transportation.

**5.2** The bulk bale shall withstand pressure during transportation and stockpile during storage.

**5.3** The bulk bale shall be properly sealed to prevent the packages spilling.

**5.4** Only packages bearing the same date of manufacture (or batch identification) and containing the same type shall be packed together in a bale.

## 6 Labelling

**6.1** Each baby napkin shall be legibly and indelibly labelled with the following information on a permanent and durable label:

- a) fibre composition;
- b) manufacturer's name and physical address;
- c) registered trademark (if any);
- d) size designation of baby napkin;
- e) batch number;
- f) care instructions; and
- g) country of origin.

### 6.2 Bulk package labelling

Each bale carrying baby nappies shall be legibly and indelibly labelled with the information given in 6.1 and number of baby nappies in a bulk package

## 7 Sampling

Sampling shall be done in accordance with ISO 2859-1.

**Annex A**  
(normative)

**List of visible defects**

- A.1 Missing warp or weft threads of over 50 mm in length
- A.2 Loose sewing threads
- A.3 Less than 32 stitches per 10 cm in the length of the hem
- A.4 Defects in weave of fabric
- A.5 Open seam at hem
- A.6 Oil or dirt stains
- A.7 Pulled terry
- A.8 Temple holes

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## Annex B (normative)

### Determination of starch and dextrans

#### B.1 Apparatus

**B.1.1** Balance, accuracy 0.1 g

**B.1.2** Graduated flask

**B.1.3** Beakers

**B.1.4** Weighing bottle

**B.1.5** Burner

**B.1.6** Funnel

#### B.2 Procedure

**B.2.1** Samples shall be dried, prior to being conditioned for a period of not less than 4 h in an atmosphere having a relative humidity not exceeding 10 % at temperatures of 50 °C to 55 °C.

**B.2.2** Sample shall be conditioned until it reaches an equilibrium in a standard atmosphere specified in ISO 139 for a period not less than 12 h. Equilibrium state in the standard atmosphere can be established by weighing the test sample (exposed to moving conditioned air) once every hour until the difference between two successive weighing becomes less than 0.5 % of the weight of the sample.

**B.2.3** Take 5 g of the test sample (B.2.2) and add 500 ml of distilled water. Boil the contents in a beaker gently for 30 min, adding sufficient water to maintain the original volume (500 ml).

**B.2.4** Pour the extract through a funnel having a fibre glass felt into another vessel. Transfer the napkin to the funnel and press out the water absorbed therein with a glass rod. Wash the napkin with two 150 ml portions of hot water, pressing the napkin after each washing. Filter the combined extracts and washings.

**B.2.5** Cool the liquid and add about 5 ml of acetic acid and about 0.15 ml of 0.1 N of iodine and note the colour change.

#### B.3 Result

The sample shall be free of starch or dextrin if no blue or violet colour appears.

## Bibliography

EAS 154: 2018, *Baby napkins — Specification*

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