
**Wheels and rims for pneumatic
tyres — Vocabulary, designation and
marking**

*Roues et jantes pour pneumatiques — Vocabulaire, désignation et
marquage*

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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 22, *Road vehicles*, Subcommittee SC 33, *Vehicle dynamics and chassis components*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 3911:2004), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- [3.8.1](#), optional bead seat profiles has been added;
- contre-pente (CP) hump in [Figure 10](#) has been omitted;
- definition for five-piece rims have been amended to include 6-, 7-, 8- and 9-piece rims;
- 4,0 and 5,0 wheel designation and marking have been added, and annexes have been deleted;
- manually adjustable wheel graphic in [Figure 8](#) has been made common with power adjustable graphic.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Wheels and rims for pneumatic tyres — Vocabulary, designation and marking

1 Scope

This document presents a vocabulary of terms related to, and systems for the designation and marking of, wheels and rims intended for use with pneumatic tyres. The intention is to define fundamental wheel and rim terms rather than provide a comprehensive tabulation of all wheel design features. Also specified are the content, location and minimum size of the wheel and rim marking, with the purpose of establishing, on a worldwide basis, a uniform identification system for wheels and rims.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

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 <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

wheel

rotating load-carrying member between the tyre and the axle, usually consisting of two major parts, the rim and the wheel disc, which may be integral, permanently attached or detachable

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1](#) to [8](#).

3.2 wheel components

3.2.1

rim

part of the *wheel* ([3.1](#)) on which the tyre is mounted and supported

3.2.2

disc

wheel disc

part of the *wheel* ([3.1](#)) which is the supporting member between the axle and the rim

3.2.3

single wheel

wheel ([3.1](#)) which supports one tyre on one end of an axle

3.2.4

inset wheel

wheel ([3.1](#)) so constructed that the rim centreplane is located inboard of the attachment face of the disc

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 1](#) a).

Note 2 to entry: Inset is the distance from the attachment face of the disc to the rim centreplane.

3.2.5

zeroset wheel

wheel (3.1) so constructed that the rim centreplane is coincident with the attachment face of the disc

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1 b).

3.2.6

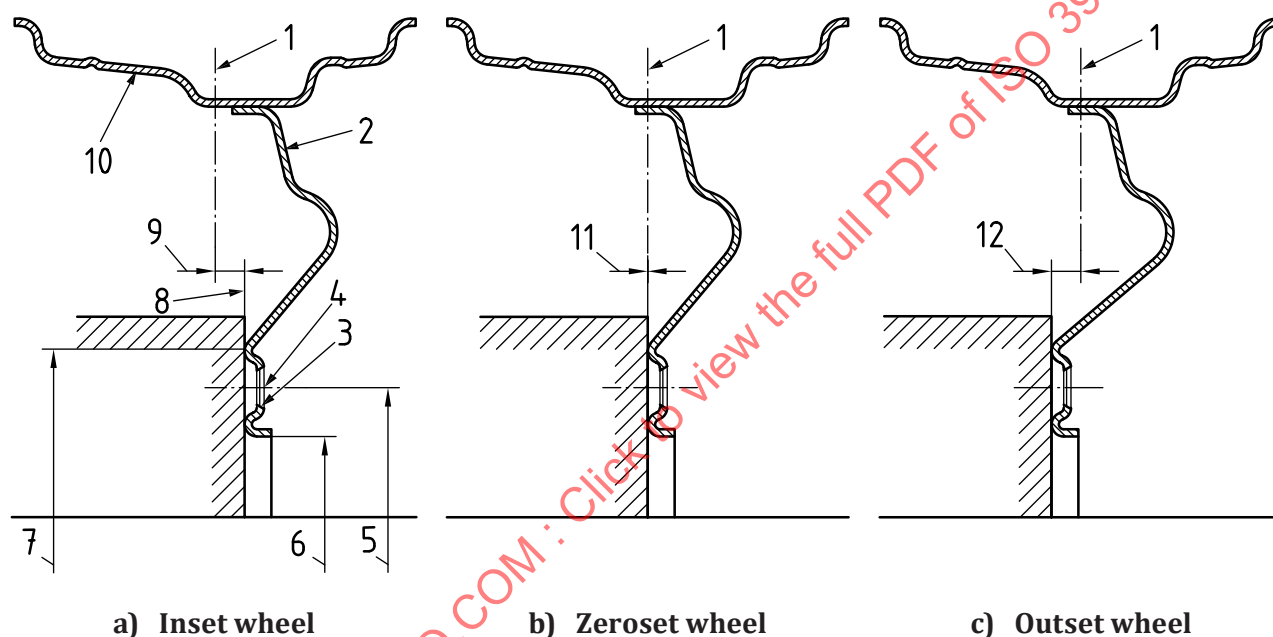
outset wheel

wheel (3.1) so constructed that the centreplane of the rim is located outboard of the attachment face of the disc

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1 c).

Note 2 to entry: Outset is the distance from the attachment face of the disc to the centreplane of the rim.

Note 3 to entry: Track, the distance between the centreplanes of the tyres on an axle, increases as the outset of the wheels is increased.



Key

1	rim centreplane	7	attachment face diameter of wheel
2	disc	8	attachment face
3	nut seat	9	inset
4	bolt hole	10	rim
5	pitch circle diameter of bolt holes	11	zeroset
6	centre hole diameter	12	outset

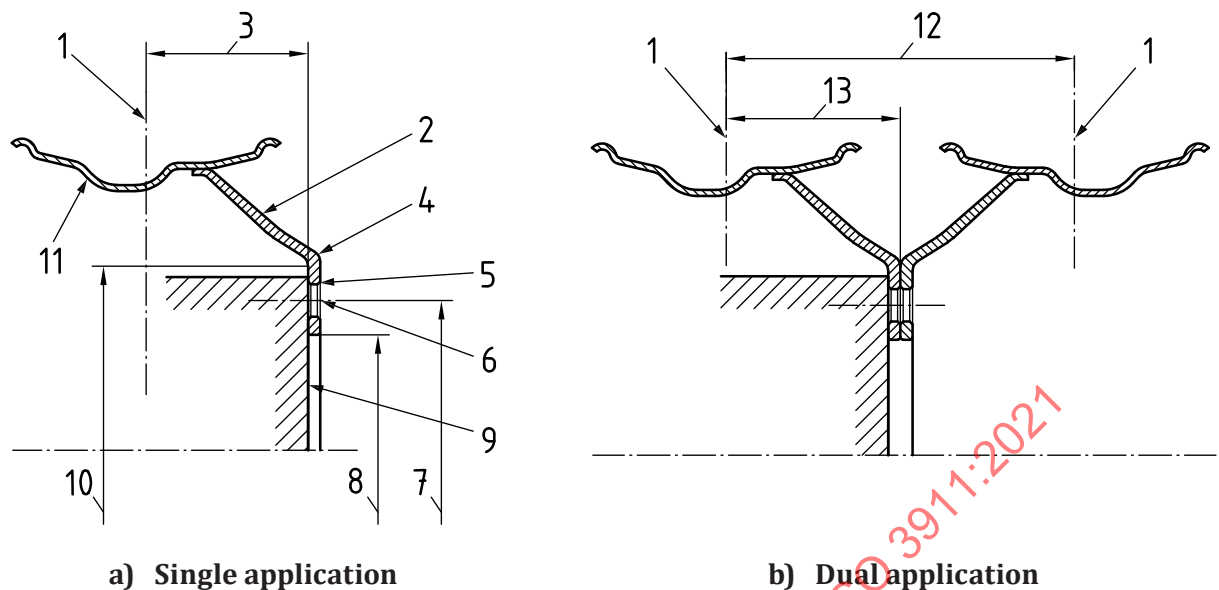
Figure 1 — Passenger car and light commercial vehicle disc wheels — Nomenclature

3.2.7

dual wheel

wheel (3.1) with sufficient inset and configuration so that two such wheels, when assembled with each other, support two tyres on one end of an axle

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 2.

**Key**

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | rim centreplane | 8 | centre hole diameter |
| 2 | disc | 9 | attachment face |
| 3 | inset | 10 | attachment face diameter of wheel |
| 4 | external face of disc | 11 | rim |
| 5 | nut seat | 12 | dual spacing |
| 6 | bolt hole | 13 | half dual spacing |
| 7 | pitch circle diameter of bolt holes | | |

Figure 2 — Commercial vehicle disc wheels — Nomenclature**3.2.8****dual spacing**

distance between the centreplanes of the rims to provide the required clearance between the tyres

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 2, 5 and 6](#).

3.3 Wheel types**3.3.1****disc wheel**

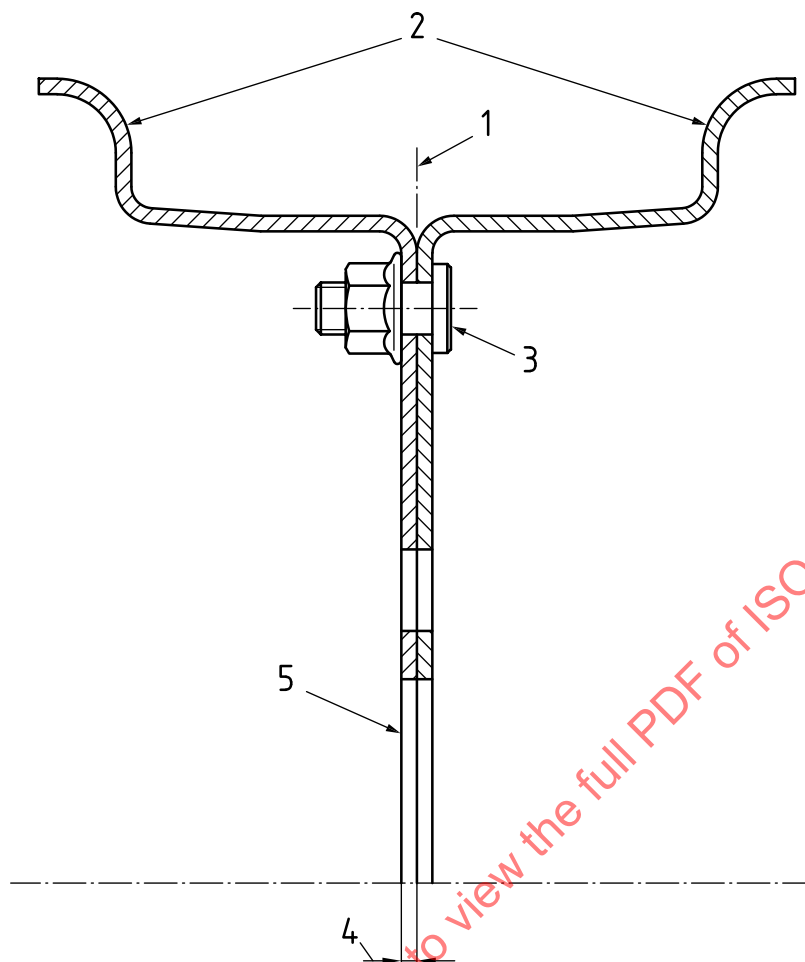
permanent combination of a rim and wheel disc

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1 and 2](#).

3.3.2**divided wheel**

wheel ([3.1](#)) so constructed that its two main parts, the rim portions of which might or might not be the same in width, when securely fastened together with clamping bolts or equivalent mechanical means, combine to form a rim having two fixed flanges

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 3](#).



Key

- 1 rim centreplane
- 2 fixed flanges
- 3 clamping bolts or equivalent mechanical means
- 4 outset
- 5 attachment face

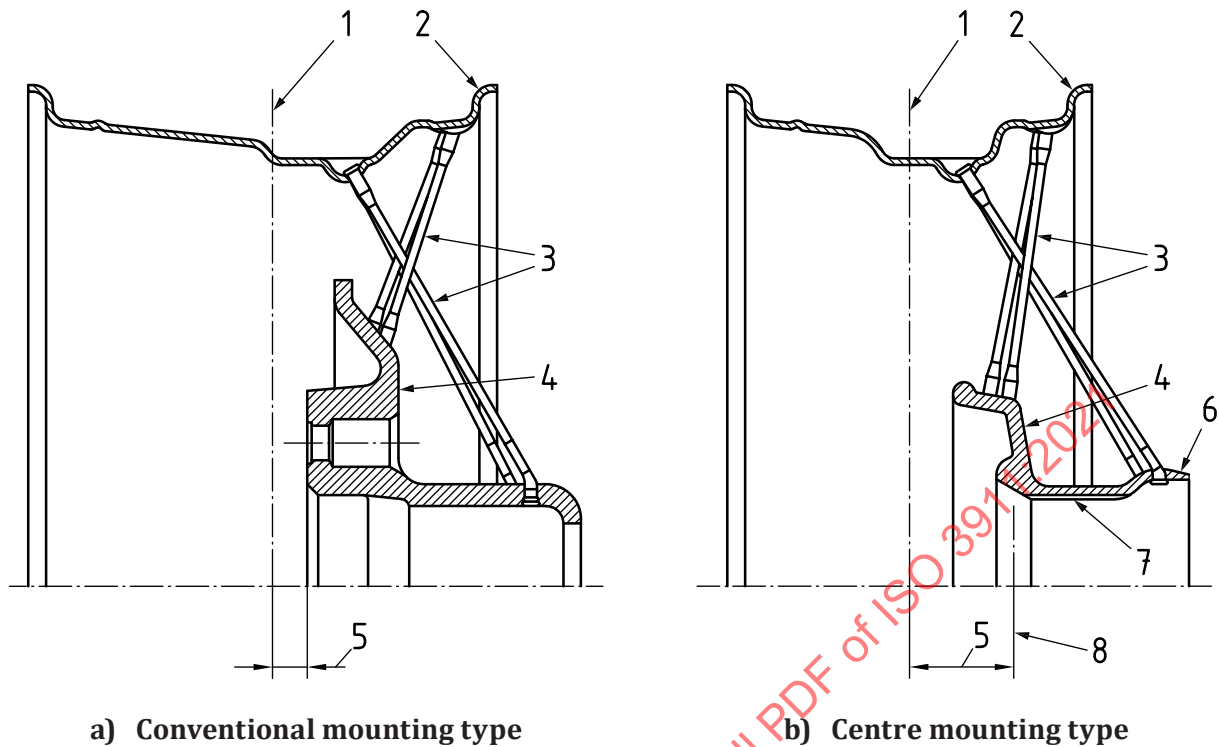
Figure 3 — Divided wheel — Nomenclature

3.3.3

wire wheel

wheel (3.1) so constructed that its rim is joined to the centre member (shell) by a series of wire spokes

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 4](#).

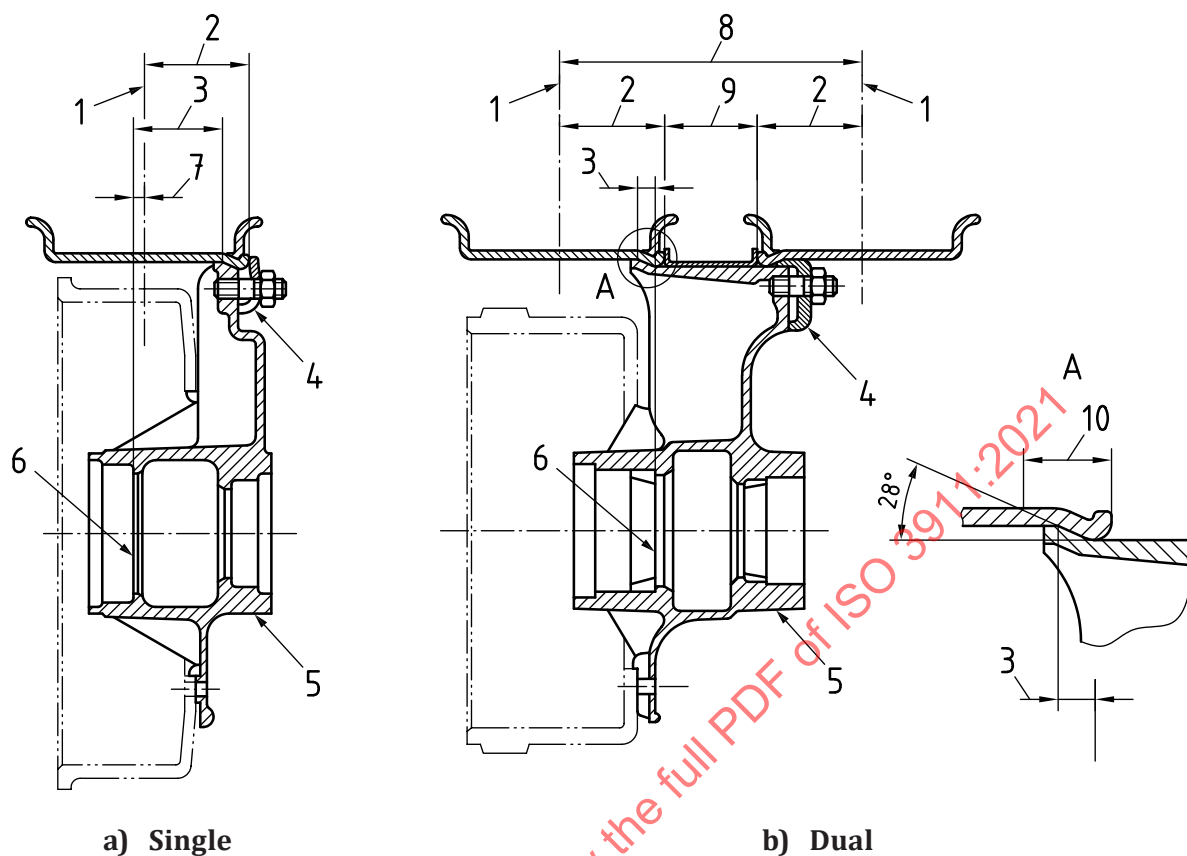
**Key**

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 | rim centreplane | 5 | inset |
| 2 | rim | 6 | cone seat for retaining nut |
| 3 | wire spokes | 7 | spline |
| 4 | centre member (shell) | 8 | hub seat reference plane |

Figure 4 — Wire wheels — Nomenclature**3.4 Wheels with demountable rims****3.4.1****wheel with 28° mounting bevel**

wheel (3.1) so constructed that one or two demountable rims are clamped to the cast wheel body, which also serves as the hub support for the brake drum or disc brake rotor

Note 1 to entry: [Figure 5](#).



Key

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|----|--|
| 1 | rim centreplane | 6 | inner bearing cup shoulder (reference plane) |
| 2 | rim base offset | 7 | outset |
| 3 | wheel bevel offset | 8 | dual spacing |
| 4 | clamp | 9 | spacer band width |
| 5 | cast wheel body | 10 | rim bevel location |

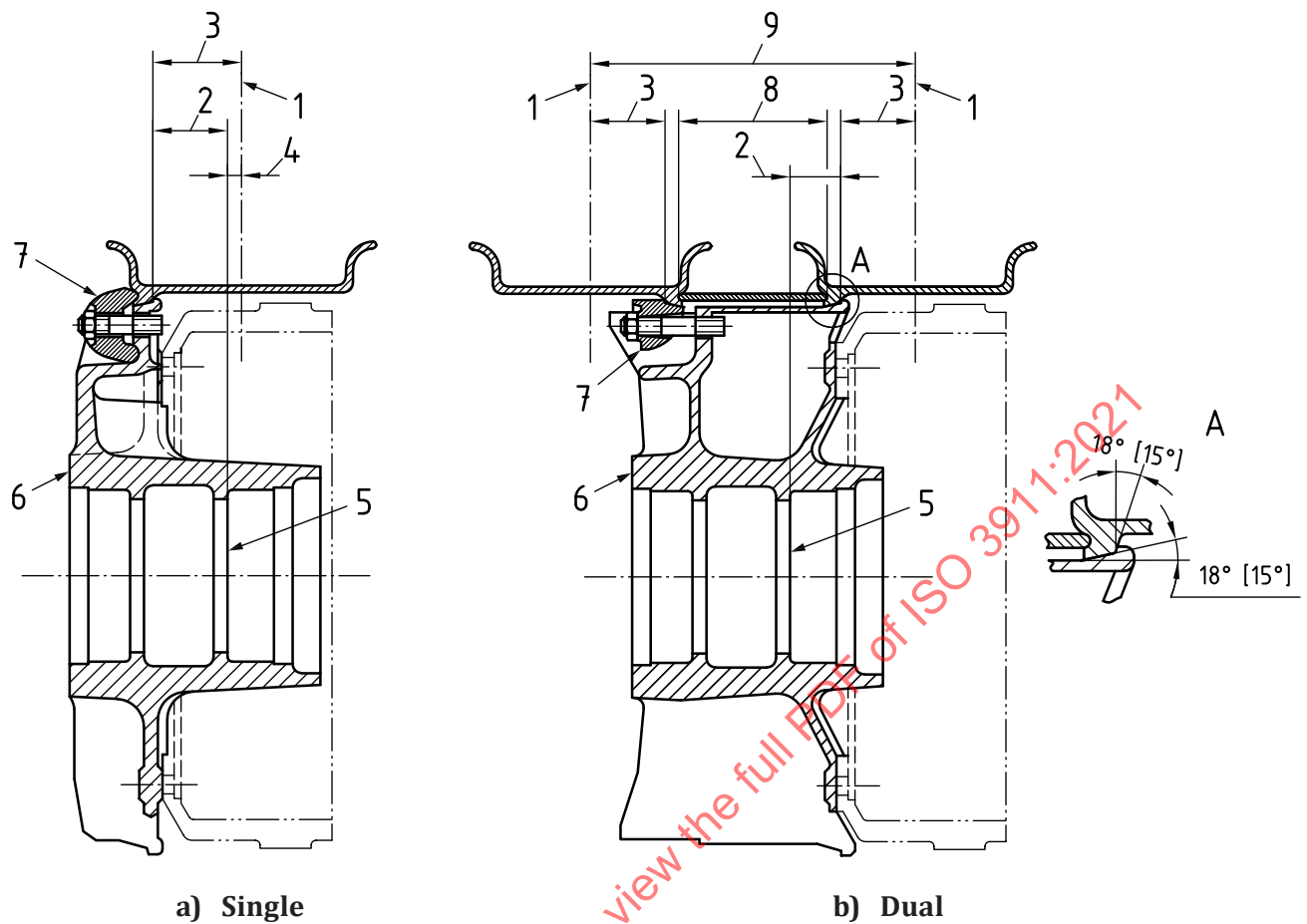
Figure 5 — Wheels with 28° mounting bevel — Nomenclature

3.4.2

wheel with 18° [15°] mounting bevel

wheel (3.1) so constructed that one or two demountable rims are clamped to an 18° [15°] mounting bevel on the cast wheel body

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 6](#).

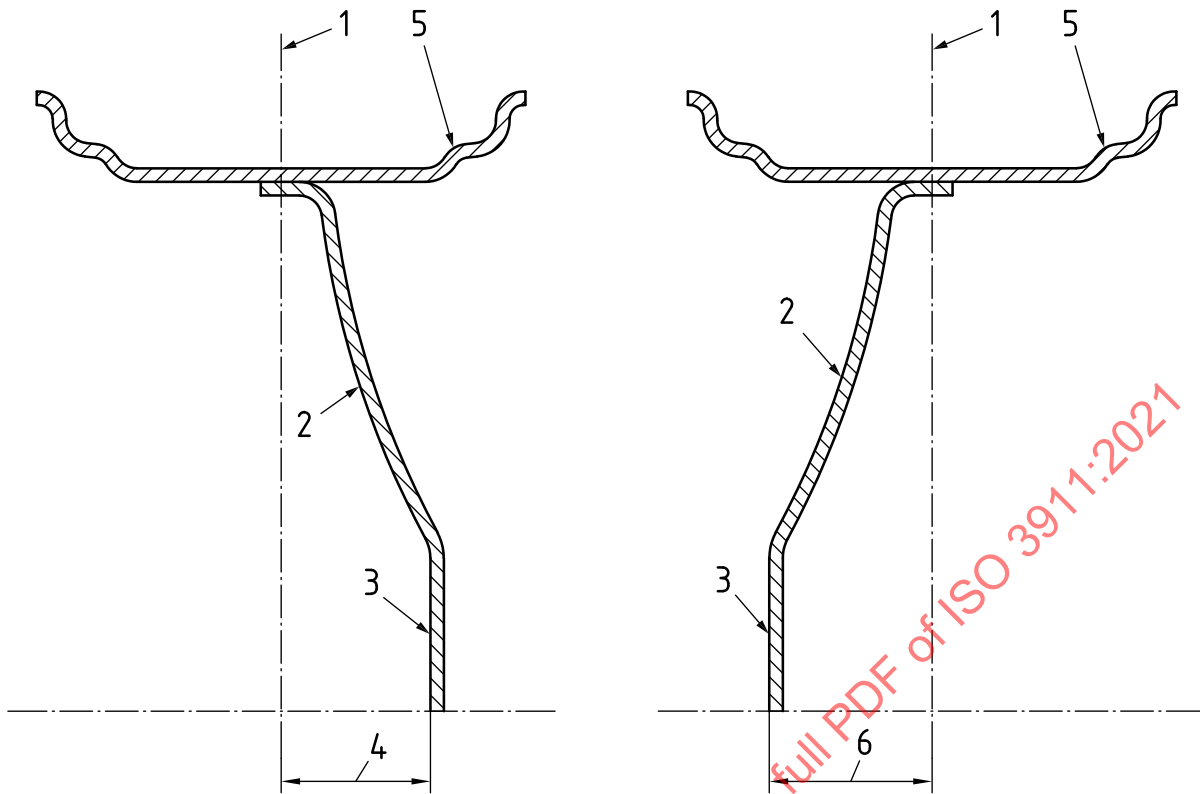


3.5 Wheels with more than one mounting option

3.5.1 reversible wheel

wheel (3.1) so constructed that its disc can be mounted on either face to provide inset (narrow track) or outset (wide track)

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 7](#).



Key

- 1 rim centreplane
- 2 disc
- 3 attachment face
- 4 inset
- 5 rim
- 6 outset

Figure 7 — Reversible wheel

3.6 Wheels with adjustable rims

3.6.1

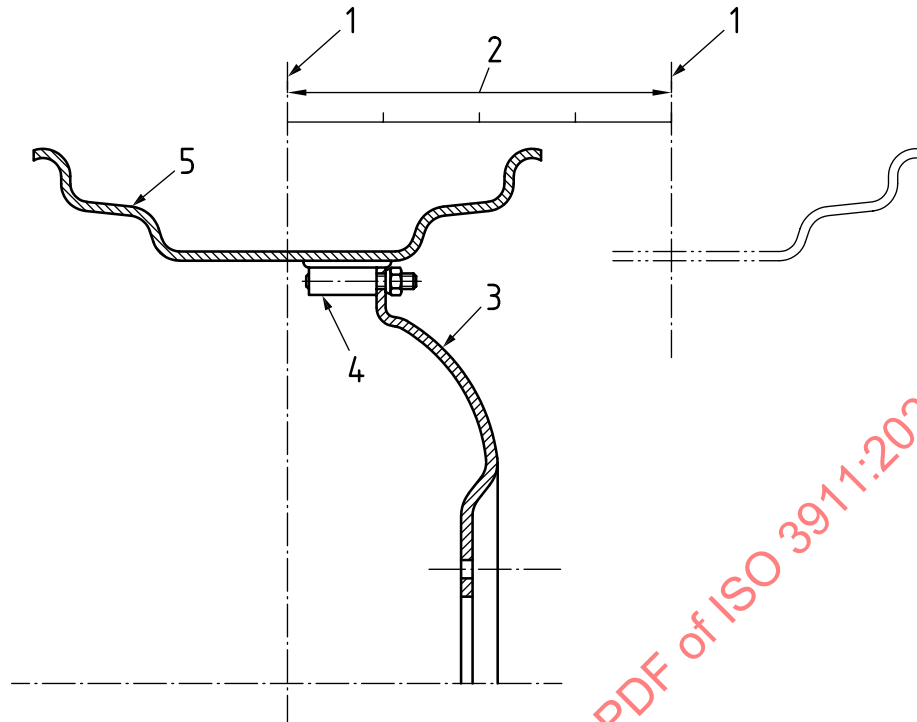
adjustable wheel

wheel (3.1) so constructed that the rim can be repositioned axially relative to the wheel disc

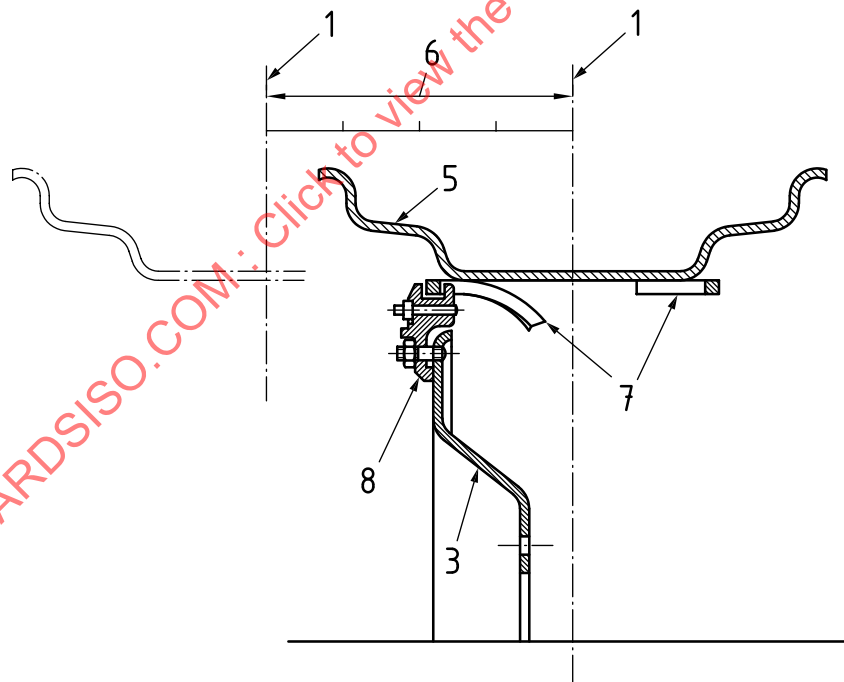
Note 1 to entry: Repositioning adjustments can be made manually or by power of the vehicle

Note 2 to entry: The power adjustable is a construction that can adjust the thread easily by loosening the clamp bolt without dismounting the rim from the disc, and by rotating the rim relatively to the wheel disc along the rail.

Note 3 to entry: See [Figure 8](#) a) or b), respectively.



a) Manually adjustable



b) Power adjustable

Key

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | rim centreplane | 5 | rim |
| 2 | total adjustment with wheel reversed | 6 | total adjustment without wheel reversed |
| 3 | disc | 7 | rails |
| 4 | bracket | 8 | clamp |

Figure 8 — Adjustable wheel

3.7 Rim nomenclature

3.7.1

flange

part of the rim which provides lateral support to the tyre

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 9](#), a , b , g , r_1 , r_2 , r_3 .

3.7.2

bead seat

part of the rim which provides radial support to the tyre

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 9](#), D , p , r_3 , β .

3.7.3

well

part of the rim so located with sufficient depth and width to enable the tyre beads to be mounted and demounted over the mounting side rim flange or bead seat taper

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 9](#), H , l , m , r_4 , r_5 , α .

3.7.4

valve aperture

valve hole

hole or slot in the rim which accommodates the valve for tyre inflation

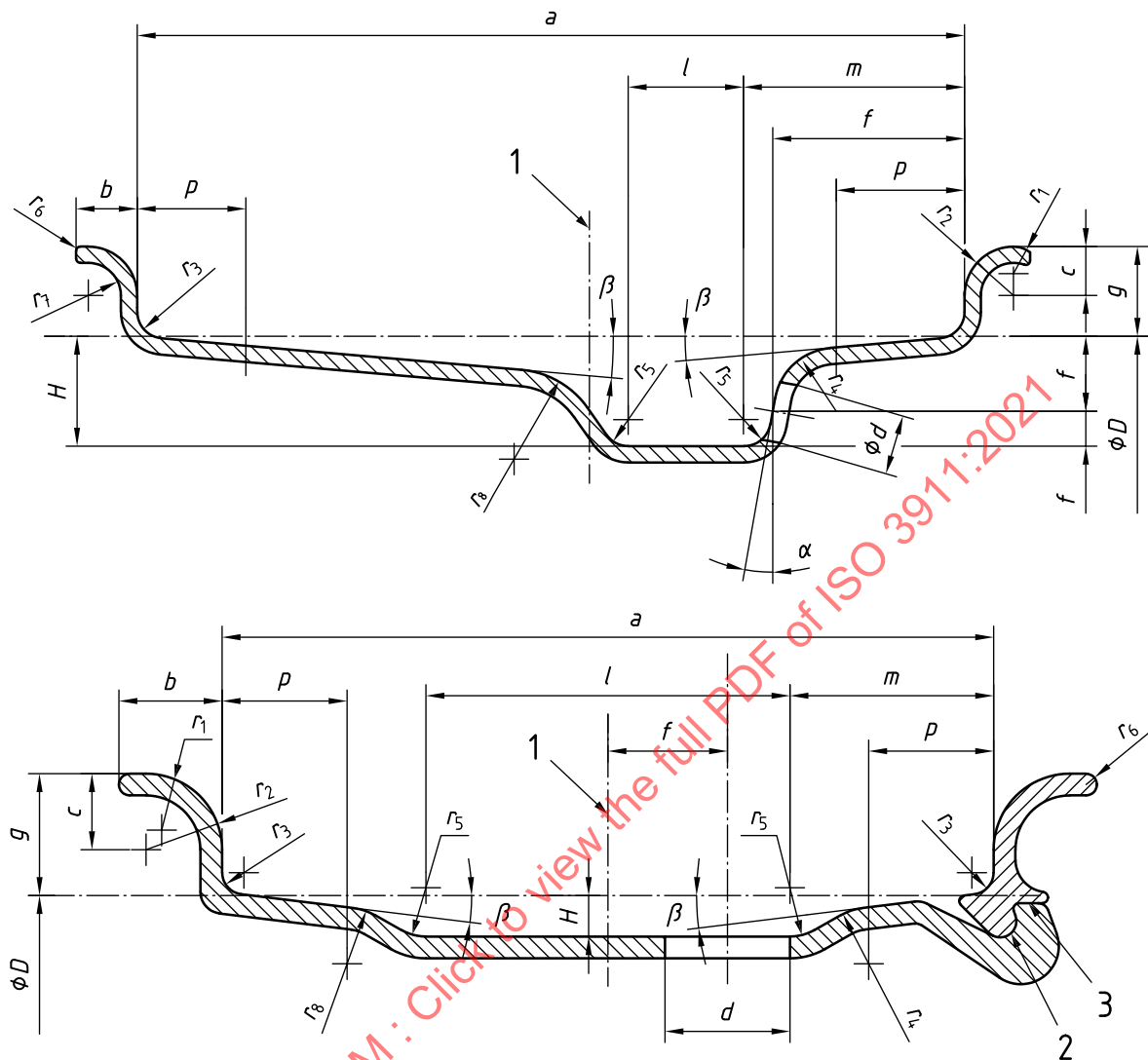
Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 9](#), d and f .

3.7.5

gutter

groove in the rim base in which rim parts such as a spring lock ring or a detachable spring flange fit and are retained by the gutter tip

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 9](#), keys 2 and 3.



Key

a	specified rim width	r_2	flange radius
b	flange width	r_3	bead seat radius
c	flange radius location	r_4	well top radius — tyre mounting side
D	specified rim diameter	r_5	well bottom radius
d	valve aperture	r_6	flange edge radius
f	valve aperture location (for information only)	r_7	flange radius at balance weight side
g	flange height	r_8	well top radius — non tyre mounting side
H	well depth	α	side wall angle of well
l	well width	β	bead seat angle
m	well position	1	rim centreplane
p	bead seat width	2	gutter
r_1	flange compound radius	3	gutter tip

Note 2 to entry For ledge depth, h , see [Figures 10](#) and [11](#).

Note 3 to entry For multi-piece rims, the valve aperture location, f , may be measured from a fixed flange or inside edge of the gutter groove.

Figure 9 — Rim tyre side profiles — Nomenclature

3.8 Rim types

3.8.1

optional bead seat profiles

rim hump or special ledge geometries

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 10](#)

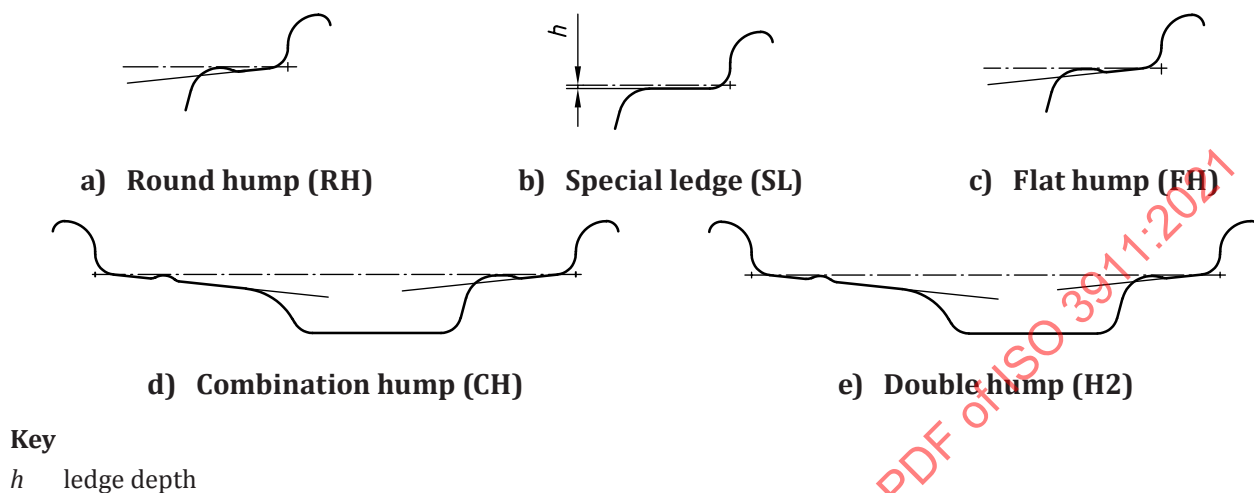


Figure 10 — Optional bead seat profiles

3.8.2

one-piece rim

drop-centre rim

rim which is of one-piece construction and incorporates a well

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 11](#).

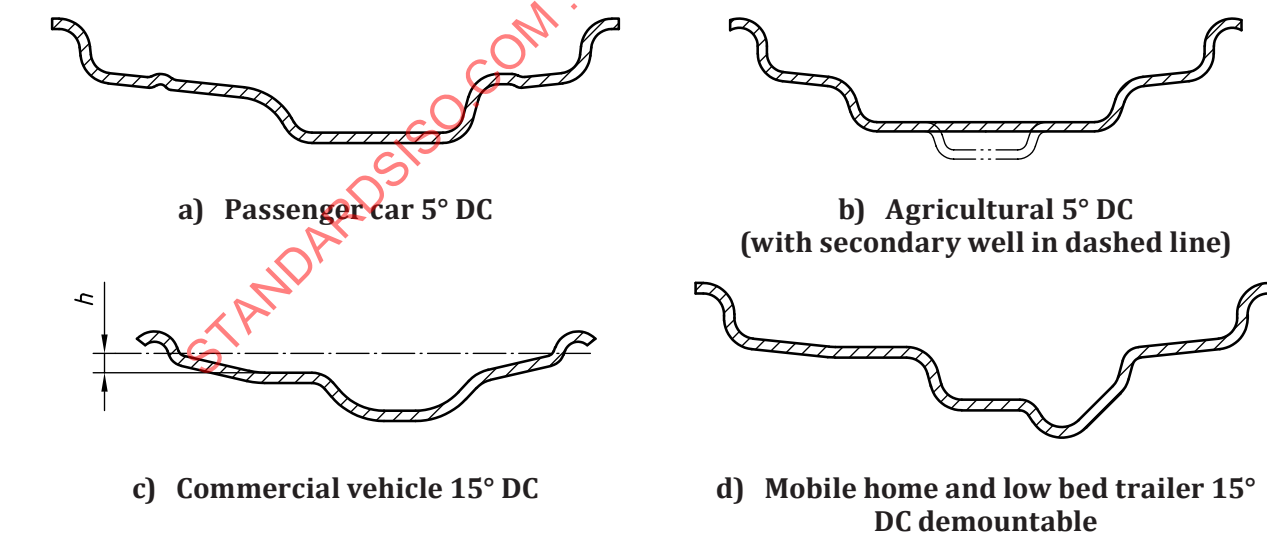
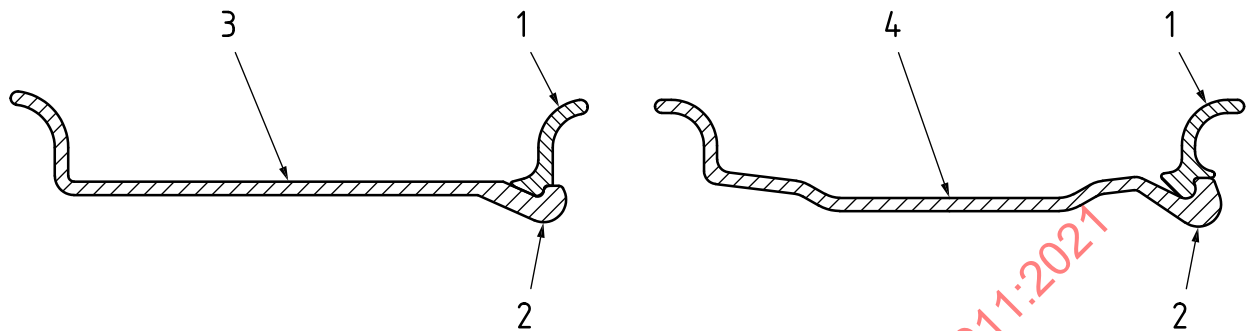


Figure 11 — One-piece (drop-centre) rims — Nomenclature

3.8.3**two-piece rim**

rim of construction with two pieces

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 12](#).**Key**

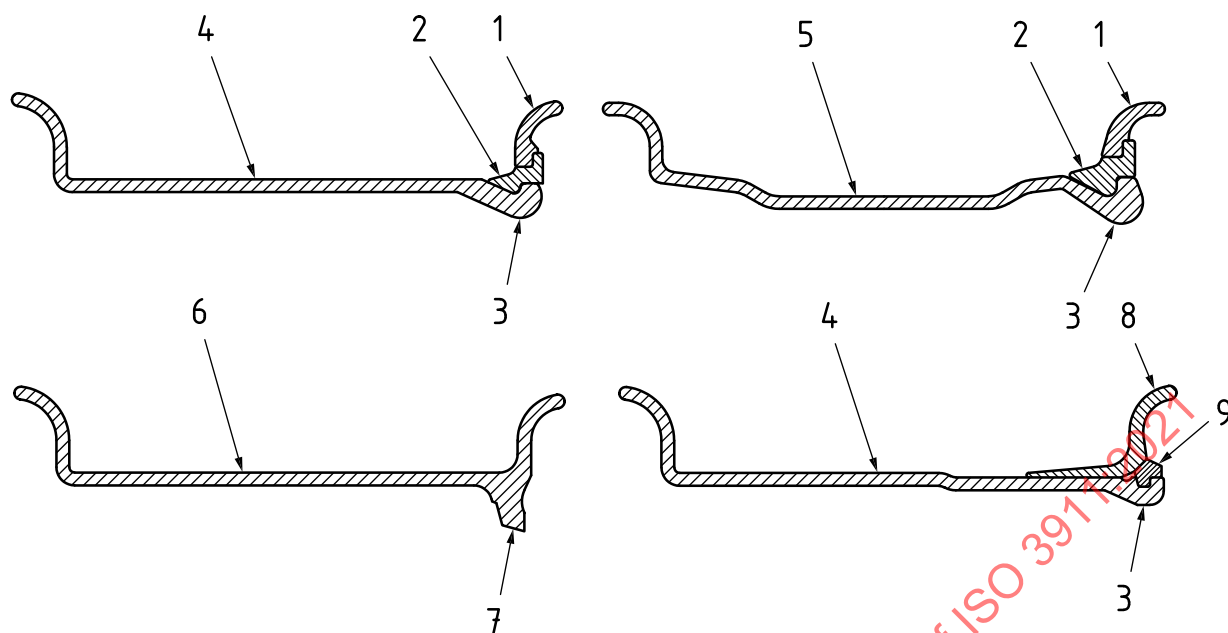
- 1 detachable spring flange
- 2 gutter portion

- 3 rim base
- 4 rim base (semi-drop-centre)

Figure 12 — Two-piece rims — Nomenclature**3.8.4****three-piece rim**

rim of construction with three pieces

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 13](#).



Key

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1 detachable endless flange | 6 3 x 120° segment rim |
| 2 spring lock ring | 7 18° [15°] bevel |
| 3 gutter portion | 8 detachable endless flange with tapered bead seat |
| 4 rim base | 9 spring lock ring |
| 5 rim base (semi-drop-centre) | |

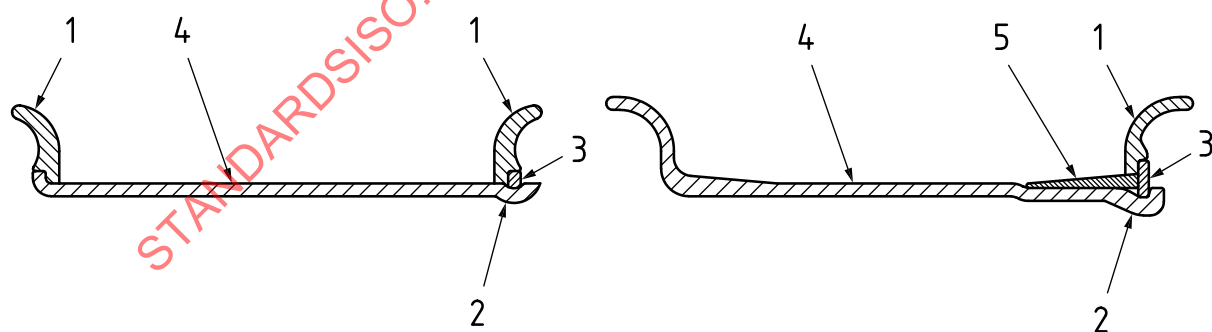
Figure 13 — Three-piece rims — Nomenclature

3.8.5

four-piece rim

rim of construction with four pieces

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 14](#).



Key

- | |
|---------------------------------|
| 1 detachable endless flange |
| 2 gutter portion |
| 3 spring lock ring |
| 4 rim base |
| 5 spring tapered bead seat ring |

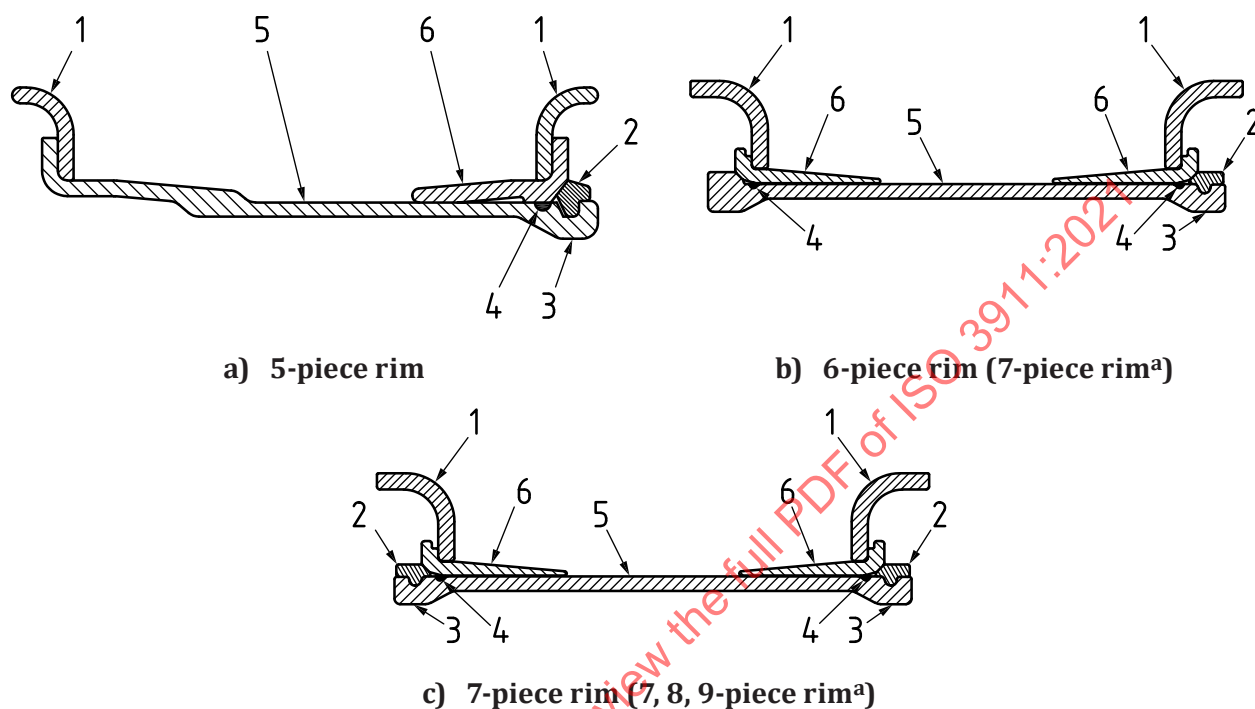
Figure 14 — Four-piece rims — Nomenclature

3.8.6

five- or more piece rims

rim of construction with five or more pieces such that the detachable flange may consist of separate types and pieces for a total of 5, 6, 7, or 8 pieces

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 15](#).



Key

- 1 detachable endless flange
- 2 spring lock ring
- 3 gutter portion
- 4 groove for O-ring seal for tubeless type applications
- 5 rim base
- 6 detachable endless tapered bead seat ring
- ^a Lock ring may be two-part lock ring.

Figure 15 — Five- or more piece rims — Nomenclature

4 Wheel/rim size designation

4.1 Designation

The size designation of wheels and rims shall be shown by numbers and letters, in the following preferred order.

a) Nominal rim diameter:

- in a size code¹⁾ for existing rim types;
- in millimetres when used in combination with new-concept tyres which require new-concept rims.

1) The size code is based on inch dimensions.