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Information technology — Extensions of Office Open XML file formats

Part 1: Guidelines

bsi.

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Foreword

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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 document 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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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, SC 34, *Document description and processing languages*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 30114 series, published under the general title *Information technology — Extensions of Office Open XML file formats*, can be found on the ISO website.

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Introduction

ISO/IEC 29500 was designed to allow the addition of markup and other data to Office Open XML (OOXML) documents, and to allow OOXML applications unaware of such markup and date to provide reasonable results. ISO/IEC TR 30114-1 provides guidance for such additions, and also specifies a collection of such additions.

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Information technology — Extensions of Office Open XML file formats —

Part 1: Guidelines

1 Scope

This document gives guidelines for the use of extensibility mechanisms in ISO/IEC 29500 (Office Open XML). In particular, it makes clear which of these mechanisms supports lossless round tripping.

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.

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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

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

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

4 Adding markup or other data to OOXML documents

4.1 General

There are two main ways to add extra markup or other data to Office Open XML (OOXML) documents:

— Using the extension mechanisms described in ISO/IEC 29500-3, Markup Compatibility and Extensibility (MCE) offers three primary mechanisms for extending XML files, each with its own advantages and disadvantages.

— Embedding foreign Open Packaging Conventions (OPC) parts.

4.2 Markup Compatibility and Extensibility (MCE): Ignorable elements and attributes (ISO/IEC 29500-3)

The most commonly used extension mechanism, marking elements or attributes as ignorable, allows lightweight additions to be made to existing markup.

A good use of ignorable markup would be the addition of a custom metadata tag onto a paragraph in a WordprocessingML document. This could be accomplished by declaring a custom namespace, marking it as ignorable, and adding the attribute to the p element in that namespace. The relevant portions of the resulting document.xml part might resemble the following:

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