INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Information technology — Structure for the identification of organizations and organization parts —

Part 1: Identification of organization identification schemes

Technologies de l'information — Structure pour l'identification des organisations et des parties d'organisations —

Partie 1: Identification des systèmes d'identification d'organisations

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

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 or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 32, *Data management services*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 6523-1:1998), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— extended length of OI and allowed UNICODE;

— OPIS content limited to one character from “0” to “9”;

— updated Annex A to reflect the limitation of OPIS content and the current body responsible for the standard and other similar changes;

— changes in application to ISO/IEC drafting rules in force.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 6523 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

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 and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

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Introduction

The increased use of data processing and telecommunications capabilities in commercial, governmental and other applications has made possible the interchange of information in an effective machine-processable form. As this type of automated interchange increases, the need for International Standards covering data also increases. The ISO/IEC 6523 series, defining a structure for a globally unique and unambiguous identification of organizations and organization parts, is one of a number of International Standards that have been developed as a means for improving the accuracy and effectiveness of data processing and data interchange.

In the development of this document, it has been recognized that a single method for identifying all organizations on an international basis is neither feasible nor practicable. Instead, this document recognizes existing methods of identification and provides a means for systematically incorporating these in a uniform structure for the purposes of information interchange. In this document, an organization can be identified by more than one identification method.

The use of the structure for the identification of organizations and organization parts, for the purpose of interchange of information, will:

a) improve the accuracy of the identification of organizations and organization parts, and hence of the interchange of data;

b) reduce the need for human intervention in the interchange of information in machine-to-machine environments;

c) diminish the time required to specify interchange agreements;

d) as a consequence of the foregoing, reduce the cost of the interchange of data.

Examples illustrating the use of the structure for the identification of organizations and organization parts are given in Annex B.

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Information technology — Structure for the identification of organizations and organization parts —

Part 1: Identification of organization identification schemes

1 Scope

This document specifies a structure for globally and unambiguously identifying organizations, and parts thereof, for the purpose of information interchange.

This document also gives recommendations regarding cases where prior agreements can be concluded between interchange partners.

This document does not specify file organization techniques, storage media, languages, etc. to be used in its implementation.

NOTE The procedure for registration of organization identification schemes is specified in ISO/IEC 6523-2.

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/IEC 6523-2, *Information technology — Structure for the identification of organizations and organization parts — Part 2: Registration of organization identification schemes*

ISO/IEC 10646, *Information technology — Universal coded character set (UCS)*

3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

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

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

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

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

3.1
organization
unique framework of authority within which a person or persons act, or are designated to act, towards some purpose

EXAMPLE

a) An organization incorporated under law.

b) An unincorporated organization or activity providing goods and/or services including:

   1) partnerships;

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