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Information technology — Business operational view —

Part 18: Common principles and rules for the unambiguous identification and assignment of identifiers in business transactions

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Foreword

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A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC15944 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

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Introduction

0.1 The purpose of unambiguous identification of entities in business transactions

Information exchange is a primary focus in the Business Object View (BOV) of business transactions. The unambiguous identification of objects is a long-standing practice and solution for the information management and exchange. However, a more critical purpose of unambiguous identification—specifically to pinpoint these business entities precisely—is to support the exchange of commitments in business transactions.

One of the key principles of the ISO/IEC 15944 eBusiness standards is that parties to a business transaction make commitments based on the nature of the goods, services, and rights (GSR) being traded—this is required by external constraints, such as legal and policy requirements. Individuals are required to be unambiguously identified to determine the binding force of commitments, and GSRs are required to be unambiguously identified to clarify obligations based on their nature.

0.2 Taking a wholistic approach to address the unambiguous identification in business transactions.

The purpose of this document is to take a holistic approach to specifying rules and guidelines for the unambiguous identification of all entity types in business transactions. This will enable standard users to more easily and systematically implement IT-supported eBusiness rules and guidelines. The identification of some of these entities has been specified—to varying degrees—in different clauses of existing ISO/IEC 15944 parts, particularly ISO/IEC 15944-1, which addresses the identification of a Person.

ISO/IEC 15944-1 has already identified and addressed the issue of unambiguous entity identification in business transactions (see its Clause 6.1.4). Additionally, within a BOV context, it addresses issues related to the identification of Person, persona, identity, and authentication (see its Clauses 6.2.2 and 6.2.3). Furthermore, ISO/IEC 15944-1 includes Annex D: “Existing standards for the unambiguous identification of Persons in a business transaction (organizations and individuals) and some common policy and implementation considerations”.

ISO/IEC 15944-1 focuses more on Person identification than on other business transaction entities, details of which are more explicitly specified in ISO/IEC 15944-4. Specifically, ISO/IEC 15944-4 elaborates on the types of business transaction entities and their modeling from a business transaction ontology perspective. However, the principles, detailed requirements, and rules for the unambiguous identification of business transaction entities other than Person have not yet been fully specified and explained.

03 Focusing on the primitive aspects in business transaction

This document focuses in the most primitive aspects of identification issues in business transaction, especially those for the goods, services and/or rights. For detailed rules and guidelines of the identification issues of these entities, future parts of ISO/IEC 15944 may be developed.

0.4 Organization and description of the document

Clause 1, 2, and 3 are the mandatory clauses of scope, normative references and terms and definitions.

Clause 4 provides the list of abbreviations used in this document.

Clause 5 provides the fundamental common principles for the unambiguous identification and assignment of identifiers in business transactions.

Clause 6 provides the fundamental knowledge and practices of using basic types of identifiers, for the purpose of unambiguous identification.

Clause 7 describes the overview of all the business transaction entity types that is required to be identified and the reasons why they should be identified.

Clause 8 provides the principles and rules for the establishment of business transaction identities, including the identity and identification of a business transaction itself.

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Clause 9 focuses specifically on the identities of goods, services, and rights as the subtypes of the economic resource.

Clause 10 describes how the identities of the business transaction entities are mutually recognized by parties to a business transaction.

Clause 11 provides the link between business transaction identifiers and the coded domain which is defined in ISO/IEC 15944-10.

Clause 12 provides the link between which and the links between and traceability, which is defined in ISO/ICE 15944-9.

Annex A provides the consolidated controlled vocabulary definitions and associated terms as human interface equivalents (HIEs) of the terms and definitions listed in this document.

Annex B describes the comparison of similar abstract concepts of the things being identified.

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Information technology — Business operational view —

Part 18: Common principles and rules for the unambiguous identification and assignment of identifiers in business transactions

1 Scope

This document specifies the general principles and methodology for the unambiguous identification of the various types of entities involved in business transactions, including Persons, goods, services, and/or rights(GSRs), business events, business documents, i.e., any SRI (or set of SRIs) relevant to a business transaction, and other relevant entities, i.e. as business transaction entities (BTEs).

This document also specifies the establishment of unambiguous identification for business transaction entities, which is based on their physical nature. Additionally, it defines how different types of information can serve as identifiers within the identification schema.

Furthermore, this document specifies how parties to a business transaction recognize business transaction entities through the use of identifiers.

Finally, it specifies the principles and rules that are required to be used for the identification of business transactions themselves.

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 8601-1:2019, *Date and time — Representations for information interchange — Part 1: Basic rules*

ISO/IEC 15944-1:2011, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 1: Operational aspects of open-edi for implementation*

ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 2: Registration of scenarios and their components as business objects*

ISO/IEC 15944-4:2015, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 4: Business transaction scenarios — Accounting and economic ontology*

ISO/IEC 15944-5:2008, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 5: Identification and referencing of requirements of jurisdictional domains as sources of external constraints*

ISO/IEC 15944-7:2009, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 7: eBusiness vocabulary*

ISO/IEC 15944-8:2026, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 8: Identification of privacy protection requirements as external constraints on business transactions*

ISO/IEC 15944-9:2023, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 9: Business transaction traceability framework for commitment exchange*

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ISO/IEC 15944-10:2023, *Information technology — Business operational view — Part 10: IT-enabled coded domains as semantic components in business transactions*

ISO/IEC 20016-1:2026, *Information technology for learning, education and training — Language accessibility and human interface equivalencies (HIEs) in e-learning applications — Part 1: Framework and reference model for semantic interoperability*

3 Terms and definitions

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
address
set of data elements that specifies a *location* (3.35) to which *recorded information* (3.44) item(s), *business object(s)* (3.37), a material *object(s)* and/or a *Person(s)* (3.39) can be sent or from which it can be received

Note 1 to entry: An address can be specified as either a physical address and/or electronic address.

Note 2 to entry: In the identification, referencing and retrieving of registered business objects, it is necessary to state whether the pertinent recorded information is available in both physical and virtual forms.

Note 3 to entry: In the context of Open-edi, a "recorded information item" is modelled and registered as an Open-edi scenario (OeS), Information Bundle (IB) or Semantic Component (SC).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.1]

3.2
attribute
characteristic of an *object* (3.37) or *entity* (3.21)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 11179-3:2023, 3.1.11]

3.3
authentication
formalized *process* (3.43) of verification that, if successful, results in an authenticated *identity* (3.32) for an *entity* (3.21)

Note 1 to entry: The authentication process involves tests by a verifier of one or more identity attributes provided by an entity to determine, with the required level of assurance, their correctness.

Note 2 to entry: Authentication typically involves the use of a policy to specify a required level of assurance for the result of a successful completion.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 24760-1:2019, 3.3.1]

3.4
BTE description
set of *data* (3.16) elements and their values which parties use to describe a *BTE* (3.8) and which is associated with a *BTEidentifier* (3.31), so that the *BTE* is identified *unambiguously* (3.52)

3.5
business event
occurrence in time that *Persons* (3.39) to a *business transaction* (3.7) require to monitor or control

Note 1 to entry: Business events are the workflow tasks that business partners need to accomplish to complete a business transaction among themselves. As business events occur, they cause a business transaction to move through its various phases of planning, identification, negotiation, actualization, and post-actualization.

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Note 2 to entry: Occurrences in time can either: (a) be internal as mutually agreed to among the parties to a business transaction and/or (b) reference some common publicly available and recognized date/time referencing schema (e.g. one based on using ISO 8601 and/or ISO 19135 standards).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-4:2015, 3.5]

3.6
Business Operational View
BOV
perspective of *business transactions* (3.7) limited to those aspects regarding the making of business decisions and commitments among *Persons* (3.39), which are needed for the description of a *business transaction*

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 14662:2010, 3.3]

3.7
business transaction
predefined set of activities and/or *processes* (3.43) of *Persons* (3.39) which is initiated by a *Person* to accomplish an explicitly shared business goal and terminated upon recognition of one of the agreed conclusions by all the involved *Persons* although some of the recognition may be implicit

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 14662:2010, 3.4]

3.8
business transaction entity
BTE
computable representation of any real-world *entity* (3.21) that participates, occurs, or is materialized during a *business transaction* (3.7)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-4:2015, 3.9]

3.9
business transaction entity type
abstract specification of a *business transaction entity* (3.8), detailing its recommended characteristics, its recommended methods, and its recommended life-cycle states

Note 1 to entry: A business transaction entity will usually specify the types of business events that cause a business transaction entity of this type to proceed through its different states as the business transaction itself progresses through its phases of planning, identification, negotiation, actualization and post-actualization.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-4:2007, 3.10]

3.10
business transaction identifier
BTI
identifier (3.31) assigned by a *seller* (3.47) or a regulator to an instantiated *business transaction* (3.7) among the *Persons* (3.39) involved

Note 1 to entry: The identifier assigned by the seller or regulator shall have the properties and behaviours of an "identifier (in a business transaction)".

Note 2 to entry: As an identifier (in a business transaction), a BTI serves as the unique common identifier for all Persons involved for the identification, referencing, retrieval of recorded information, etc., pertaining to the commitments made and the resulting actualization (and post-actualization) of the business transaction agreed to.

Note 3 to entry: A business transaction identifier can be assigned at any time during the planning, identification or negotiation phases but shall be assigned at least prior to the start or during the actualization phase.

Note 4 to entry: As and where required by the applicable jurisdictional domain(s), the recorded information associated with the business transaction identifier (BTI) may well require the seller to include other identifiers, (e.g., from a value-added good or service tax, etc., perspective) as assigned by the applicable jurisdictional domain(s).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-5:2008, 3.12]

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3.11
business transaction traceability
BTT
requirement to provide *set(s) of recorded information* (3.48) (*SRIs*) on the status and/or nature of a good, service and/or right, which is the goal of the *business transaction* (3.7), in its transfer, transport, and/or *location(s)* (3.35), from a *seller* (3.47) to a *buyer* (3.12), as either: (1) agreed to by the parties to a *business transaction* as part of internal constraints; and/or, (2) imposed by a regulator(s) as applicable external constraints, based on the nature of the good, service, and/or right, which is the goal of the *business transaction*

Note 1 to entry: Traceability requirements which are of an internal constraints nature need to be specified and agreed to by the parties to a business transaction as part of both the process and data components in an Open-edi scenario before or at the negotiation phase and include those which apply to the actualization phase, and where applicable, to the post-actualization phase.

Note 2 to entry: Traceability requirements which are of an external constraints nature shall be: (1) specified during the planning or identification phase of the process component; and, (2) be finalized during the negotiation phase. This may include obtaining sets of recorded information in the form of registrations, identifiers and/or approval from applicable regulatory authorities prior to the actualization of the instantiation of a business transaction.

Note 3 to entry: SRIs required to support traceability requirements manifest themselves as semantic components (SCs) as part of IBs in Open-edi scenarios.

Note 4 to entry: External constraints pertaining to traceability requirements may have state changes and record retention requirements which are unique to that external constraint.

Note 5 to entry: There is a need to follow and have evidence in place to allow traceability to occur. The nature of an Open-edi business transaction being based on rules, etc., ensures that evidence can be followed.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-9:2023, 3.12]

3.12
buyer
Person (3.39) who aims to get possession of a good, service and/or right through providing an acceptable equivalent value, usually in money, to the *Person* providing such a good, service and/or right

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.8]

3.13
coded domain
domain for which: (1) the boundaries are defined and explicitly stated as a rulebase of a *coded domain Source Authority* (3.14); and, (2) each *entity* (3.21) which qualifies as a member of that domain is identified through the assignment of a unique ID code in accordance with the applicable *Registration Schema* (3.46) of that *Source Authority* (3.49)

Note 1 to entry: The rules governing the assignment of an ID code to members of a coded domain reside with its Source Authority and form part of the Coded Domain Registration Schema of the Source Authority.

Note 2 to entry: Source Authorities which are jurisdictional domains are the primary source of coded domains.

Note 3 to entry: 3 A coded domain is a data set for which the content values of the data element are predetermined and defined according to the rulebase of its Source Authority and as such have predefined semantics.

Note 4 to entry: Associated with a code in a coded domain can be: (a) one and/or more equivalent codes; and/or, (b) one and/or more equivalent representations especially those in the form of human interface equivalent (HIE) (linguistic) expressions.

Note 5 to entry: In a coded domain the rules for assignment and structuring of the ID codes must be specified.

Note 6 to entry: Where an entity as member of a coded domain is allowed to have, i.e., assigned, more than one ID code, i.e., as equivalent ID codes (possibly including names), one of these must be specified as the pivot ID code.

Note 7 to entry: A coded domain in turn can consist of two or more coded domains, i.e., through the application of the inheritance principle of object classes.

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Note 8 to entry: A coded domain may contain an ID code which pertains to predefined conditions other than qualification of membership of entities in the coded domain. Further, the rules governing a coded domain may or may not provide for user extensions.

EXAMPLE 1 (1) The use of ID Code "0" (or "00", etc.) for “Others, (2) the use of ID Code "9" (or "99", etc.) for “Not Applicable”; (3) the use of “8” (or “98”) for “Not Known”; and/or, if required, (4) the pre-reservation of a series of ID codes for use of “user extensions”.

Note 9 to entry: In object methodology, entities which are members of a coded domain are referred to as instances of a class.

EXAMPLE 2 In UML modelling notation, an ID code is viewed as an instance of an object class.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.13]

3.14
coded domain Source Authority
cdSA
Person (3.39), usually an organization, as a *Source Authority* (3.49) which sets the rules governing a *coded domain* (3.13)

Note 1 to entry: Source Authority is a role of a Person and for widely used coded domains the coded domain Source Authority is often a jurisdictional domain.

Note 2 to entry: Specific sectors, (e.g., banking, transport, geomatics, agriculture, etc.), may have particular coded domain Source Authority(ies) whose coded domains are used in many other sectors.

Note 3 to entry: A coded domain Source Authority usually also functions as a Registration Authority but can use an agent, i.e., another Person, to execute the registration function on its behalf.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.14]

3.15
credential
representation of an *identity* (3.32) for use in *authentication* (3.3)

Note 1 to entry: As described in ISO/IEC 24760-1:2019, 5.4, customary embodiments of a credential are very diverse. To accommodate this wide range, the definition adopted in this document is very generic.

Note 2 to entry: A credential is typically made to facilitate data authentication of the identity information pertaining to the identity it represents. Data authentication is typically used in authorization.

Note 3 to entry: The identity information represented by a credential can, for example, be printed on human readable media, or stored within a physical token. Typically, such information can be presented in a manner designed to reinforce its perceived validity.

Note 4 to entry: A credential can be a username, username with a password, a PIN, a smartcard, a token, a fingerprint, a passport, etc.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 24760-1:2019, 3.3.5, /Amd 1:2023]

3.16
data
reinterpretable representation of information in a formalized manner suitable for communication, interpretation, or processing

Note 1 to entry: Data can be processed by humans or by automatic means.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121272]

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3.17
eBusiness
business transaction (3.7), involving the making of commitments, in a defined collaboration space, among *Persons* (3.39) using their IT systems, according to Open-edi standards

Note 1 to entry: eBusiness can be conducted on both a for-profit and not-for-profit basis

Note 2 to entry: A key distinguishing aspect of eBusiness is that it involves the making of commitment(s) of any kind among the Persons in support of a mutually agreed upon goal, involving their IT systems, and doing so through the use of Edi (using a variety of communication networks including the Internet).

Note 3 to entry: eBusiness includes various application areas such as e-commerce, e-administration, e-logistics, e-government, e-medicine, e-learning, etc.

Note 4 to entry: The equivalent French language term for "eBusiness" is always presented in its plural form

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-7:2009, 3.6]

3.18
economic event
occurrence in time wherein ownership of an *economic resource* (3.19) is transferred from one *Person* (3.39) to another *Person*

Note 1 to entry: Occurrences in time can either be: (a) internal as mutually agreed to among the parties to a business transaction; and/or, (b) reference some common publicly available and recognized date/time referencing schema, (e.g., one based on using the ISO 8601 and/or ISO 19135 standards).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-4:2015, 3.25]

3.19
economic resource
good, right, or service of value, under the control of a Person

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-4:2015, 3.28]

3.20
electronic address
address (3.1) used in a recognized electronic addressing scheme, (e.g., telephone, telex, IP, etc.), to which *recorded information* (3.44) item(s) and/or business *object(s)* (3.37) can be sent to or received from a Contact

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.32]

3.21
entity
any concrete or abstract thing that exists, did exist, or might exist, including associations among these things

EXAMPLE A Person, object, event, idea, process, etc.

Note 1 to entry: An entity exists whether data about it are available or not.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121433]

3.22
entity description
set of data elements and their values (e.g. as an SRI) required to be present by parties to a *business transaction* (3.7) pertaining to any *entity* (3.21) in a *business transaction* and thus identified for a specific purpose

3.23
entity descriptive attribute
attribute (3.2) the value of which provides knowledge that one is required to provide for its use about the *entity* (3.21) that it is associated with

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3.24
entity distinguishing attribute
EDA
attribute (3.2) the value of which differentiates the *entity* (3.21) that it is associated with from other entities in the same scope of consideration

3.25
Formal Description Technique
FDT
specification method based on a description language using rigorous and *unambiguous* (3.52) rules both with respect to developing expressions in the language (formal syntax) and interpreting the meaning of these expressions (formal semantics)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 14662:2010, 3.9]

3.26
Functional Service View
FSV
perspective of *business transactions* (3.7) limited to those information technology interoperability aspects of Information Technology Systems needed to support the execution of Open-edi transactions

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 14662:2010, 3.10]

3.27
Human Interface Equivalent
HIE
representation of the *unambiguous* (3.52) and IT-enabled semantics of an IT interface equivalent (in a *business transaction* (3.7)), often the ID code of a *coded domain* (3.13) (or a composite *identifier* (3.31)), in a formalized manner suitable for communication to and understanding by humans

Note 1 to entry: Human interface equivalents can be linguistic or non-linguistic in nature but their semantics remains the same although their representations may vary.

Note 2 to entry: In most cases there will be multiple human interface equivalent representations as required to meet localization requirements, i.e. those of a linguistic nature, jurisdictional nature, and/or sectoral nature.

Note 3 to entry: Human interface equivalents include representations in various forms or formats, (e.g., in addition to written text those of an audio, symbol (and icon) nature, glyphs, image, etc.).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.35]

3.28
IB identifier
unique, linguistically neutral, *unambiguous* (3.52) referenceable *identifier* (3.31) for an *Information Bundle* (3.33)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.36]

3.29
identification
rule-based *process* (3.43), explicitly stated, involving the use of one or more *attributes* (3.2), i.e., *data* (3.16) element(s), whose content value (or combination of values) are used to identify uniquely the occurrence or existence of a specified *entity* (3.21)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.26]

3.30
identification schema
set of technical and/or management rules for the *identification* (3.29) representation of identification *data* (3.16) structure and the *identificationprocess* (3.43), in order that the *entities* (3.18) be assigned *identifiers* (3.31) in a consistent and structured way

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3.31
identifier (in business transaction)
unambiguous (3.52), unique and a linguistically neutral value, resulting from the application of a rule-based *identification* (3.29)*process* (3.43)

Note 1 to entry: Identifiers are required to be unique within the identification scheme of the issuing authority.

Note 2 to entry: An identifier is a linguistically independent sequence of characters capable of uniquely and permanently identifying that with which it is associated.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.27]

3.32
identity
set of *attributes* (3.2) related to an *entity* (3.21)

Note 1 to entry: An entity can have more than one identity.

Note 2 to entry: Several entities can have the same identity.

Note 3 to entry: The term identifier implies the distinguishing attribute of an entity.

Note 4 to entry: This is adapted from ISO/IEC 24760-1:2019, 3.1.2, with change of its Note 3 to entry.

3.33
Information Bundle
IB
formal description of the semantics of the *recorded information* (3.44) to be exchanged by Open-edi Parties playing roles in an Open-edi scenario

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 14662:2010, 3.11]

3.34
jurisdictional domain
jurisdiction, recognized in law as a distinct legal and/or regulatory framework, which is a source of external constraints on *Persons* (3.39), their behavior and the making of commitments among *Persons* including any aspect of a *business transaction* (3.7)

Note 1 to entry: The pivot jurisdictional domain is a United Nations (UN) recognized member state. From a legal and sovereignty perspective they are considered "peer" entities. Each UN member state, (a.k.a. country) may have sub-administrative divisions as recognized jurisdictional domains, (e.g., provinces, territories, cantons, länder, etc.), as decided by that UN member state.

Note 2 to entry: Jurisdictional domains can combine to form new jurisdictional domains, (e.g., through bilateral, multilateral and/or international treaties).

EXAMPLE The European Union (EU), NAFTA, WTO, WCO, ICAO, WHO, Red Cross, the ISO, the IEC, the ITU, etc.

Note 3 to entry: Several levels and categories of jurisdictional domains may exist within a jurisdictional domain.

Note 4 to entry: A jurisdictional domain may impact aspects of the commitment(s) made as part of a business transaction including those pertaining to the making, selling, transfer of goods, services and/or rights (and resulting liabilities) and associated information. This is independent of whether such an interchange of commitments is conducted on a for-profit or not-for-profit basis and/or includes monetary values.

Note 5 to entry: Laws, regulations, directives, etc., issued by a jurisdictional domain and are considered as parts of that jurisdictional domain and are the primary sources of external constraints on business transactions.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-5:2008, 3.67]

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3.35
location
place, either physical or electronic, that can be defined as an *address* (3.1)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.50]

3.36
medium
physical material which serves as a functional unit, in or on which information or *data* (3.16) is normally recorded, in which information or *data* can be retained and carried, from which information or *data* can be retrieved, and which is non-volatile in nature

Note 1 to entry: This definition is independent of the material nature on which the information is recorded and/or technology used to record the information [e.g. paper, photographic (chemical), magnetic, optical, ICs (integrated circuits), as well as other categories no longer in common use such as vellum, parchment (and other animal skins), plastics (e.g., bakelite or vinyl), textiles (e.g., linen, canvas), metals, etc.].

Note 2 to entry: The inclusion of the "non-volatile in nature" attribute is to cover latency and records retention requirements.

Note 3 to entry: This definition of "medium" is independent of: (a) form or format of recorded information; (b) physical dimensions and/or size; and, (c) any container or housing that is physically separate from material being housed and without which the medium can remain a functional unit.

Note 4 to entry: This definition of "medium" also captures and integrates the following key properties: (a) the property of medium as a material in or on which information or data can be recorded and retrieved; (b) the property of storage; (c) the property of physical carrier; (d) the property of physical manifestation, i.e., material; (e) the property of a functional unit; and, (f) the property of (some degree of) stability of the material in or on which the information or data is recorded.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.34]

3.37
object
anything perceivable or conceivable

Note 1 to entry: Objects may also be material, (e.g., engine, a sheet of paper, a diamond), or immaterial, (e.g., conversion ratio, a project plan), or imagined, (e.g., a unicorn).

[SOURCE: ISO 1087:2019, 3.1.1]

3.38
Open-edi Support Infrastructure
OeSI
model of the set of functional capabilities for Open-edi systems which, when taken together with the Decision Making Applications, allows Open-edi Parties to participate in Open-edi transactions

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 14662:2010, 3.20]

3.39
Person
entity (3.21), i.e., a natural or legal person, recognized by law as having legal rights and duties, able to make commitment(s), assume and fulfil resulting obligation(s), and able of being held accountable for its action(s)

Note 1 to entry: Synonyms for "legal person" include "artificial person", "body corporate", etc., depending on the terminology used in competent jurisdictions.

Note 2 to entry: "Person" is capitalized to indicate that it is being used as formally defined in the standards and to differentiate it from its day-to-day use.

Note 3 to entry: Minimum and common external constraints applicable to a business transaction often require one to differentiate among three common sub-types of Person, namely "individual", "organization", and "public administration".

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[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 14662:2010, 3.24]

3.40
Person identity
combination of *persona* (3.41) information and *identifier* (3.31) used by a *Person* (3.39) in a *business transaction* (3.7)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.51]

3.41
persona
set of data elements and their values by which a Person wishes to be known and thus identified in a *business transaction* (3.7)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.48]

3.42
physical address
address (3.1) that is used/recognized by a postal authority and/or courier service to deliver information item(s), material *object(s)* (3.37), or business *object(s)* to a Contact at either an actual *address* or a pick-up point *address*, (e.g., P.O. Box, rural route, etc.)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.80]

3.43
process
series of actions or events taking place in a defined manner leading to the accomplishment of an expected result

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.53]

3.44
recorded information
any information that is recorded on or in a *medium* (3.36) irrespective of form, recording *medium* or technology used, and in a manner allowing for storage and retrieval

Note 1 to entry: This is a generic definition and is independent of any ontology (e.g., those of "facts" versus "data" versus "information" versus "intelligence" versus "knowledge", etc.).

Note 2 to entry: Through the use of the term "information", all attributes of this term are inherited in this definition.

Note 3 to entry: This definition covers: (a) any form of recorded information, means of recording, and any medium on which information can be recorded; (b) all types of recorded information including all data types, instructions or software, databases, etc.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.56]

3.45
Registration Authority
RA
Person (3.39) responsible for the maintenance of one or more *Registration Schemas* (3.46) (*RS*) including the assignment of a unique *identifier* (3.31) for each recognized *entity* (3.21) in a *Registration Schema* (*RS*)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.57]

3.46
Registration Schema
RS
formal definition of a set of rules governing the *data* (3.16) fields for the description of an *entity* (3.21) and the allowable contents of those fields, including the rules for the assignment of *identifiers* (3.31)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.58]

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3.47
seller
Person (3.39) who aims to hand over voluntarily or in response to a demand, a good, service and/or right to another *Person* and in return receives an acceptable equivalent value, usually in money, for the good, service and/or right provided

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.62]

3.48
set of recorded information
SRI
recorded information (3.44) of a *Person* (3.39) which is under the control of the same and which is treated as a unit in its information life cycle

Note 1 to entry: An SRI can be a physical or digital document, a record, a file, etc., that can be read, perceived or heard by a Person or computer system or similar device.

Note 2 to entry: An SRI is a unit of recorded information that is unambiguously defined in the context of the business goals of the organization, i.e., a semantic component.

Note 3 to entry: An SRI can be self-standing (atomic), or a SRI can consist of a bundling of two or more SRIs into another "new" SRI. Both types can exist simultaneously within the information management systems of an organization.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-5:2008, 3.137]

3.49
Source Authority
SA
Person (3.39) recognized by other *Persons* as the authoritative source for a set of constraints

Note 1 to entry: A Person as a Source Authority for internal constraints may be an individual, organization, or public administration.

Note 2 to entry: A Person as Source Authority for external constraints may be an organization or public administration.

EXAMPLE In the field of air travel and transportation, IATA as a Source Authority, is an "organization", while ICAO as a Source Authority, is a "public administration".

Note 3 to entry: A Person as an individual shall not be a Source Authority for external constraints.

Note 4 to entry: Source Authorities are often the issuing authority for identifiers (or composite identifiers) for use in business transactions.

Note 5 to entry: A Source Authority can undertake the role of Registration Authority or have this role undertaken on its behalf by another Person.

Note 6 to entry: Where the sets of constraints of a Source Authority control a coded domain, the SA has the role of a coded domain Source Authority.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-2:2015, 3.109]

3.50
timestamp
sequence of characters denoting the date and/or time at which a certain event occurs

[SOURCE: ISO 20415:2019, 3.18]

3.51
third party
Person (3.39) besides the two primarily concerned in a *business transaction* (3.7) who is agent of neither and who fulfils a specified role or function as mutually agreed to by the two primary *Persons* or as a result of external constraints

Note 1 to entry: It is understood that more than two Persons can at times be primary parties in a business transaction.

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[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.65]

3.52
unambiguous
level of certainty and explicitness required in the completeness of the semantics of the *recorded information* (3.44) interchanged that is appropriate to the goal of a *business transaction* (3.7)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2025, 3.66]

4 Abbreviations

BOV	Business Operational View
BTE	Business Transaction Entity
BTI	Business Transaction Identifier
BTT	Business Transaction Traceability
DOI	Digital Object Identifier
EDA	Entity Distinguishing Attribute
EDI	Electronic Data Interchange
cdSA	coded domain Source Authority
FDT	Formal Description Technique
FSV	Functional Service View
GPS	Global Position System
GLN	Global Location Number
HIE	Human Interface Equivalent
IB	Information Bundle
ID	Identifier
IP	Intellectual Property
LOCODE	Location Code
OeSI	Open-edi Support Infrastructure
OID	Object Identifier
QR code	quick response code
RA	Registration Authority
RFID	radio frequency identification
RS	Registration Schema
SA	Source Authority
SRI	set of recorded information
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

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