INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO/IEC 7811-3

Second edition
1995-08-15

Identification cards — Recording technique —

Part 3:
Location of embossed characters on ID-1 cards

Cartes d'identification — Technique d'enregistrement —

Partie 3: Position des caractères estampés sur les cartes ID-1

INTERNATIONAL ISO/IEC

Reference number
ISO/IEC 7811-3:1995(E)

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.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1. Draft international Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO/IEC 7811-3 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 17, *Identification cards and related devices*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 7811-3:1985), of which it constitutes a technical revision.

ISO/IEC 7811 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Identification cards — Recording technique*:

— *Part 1: Embossing*

— *Part 2: Magnetic stripe*

— *Part 3: Location of embossed characters on ID-1 cards*

— *Part 4: Location of read-only magnetic tracks — Tracks 1 and 2*

— *Part 5: Location of read-write magnetic tracks — Track 2*

Introduction

ISO/IEC 7811 is one of a series of standards describing the parameters for identification cards as defined in clause 4 and the use of such cards for international interchange.

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Identification cards — Recording technique —

Part 3:
Location of embossed characters on ID-1 cards

1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 7811 specifies the location of embossed characters on identification cards of ID-1 size, the dimensions of which are specified in ISO/IEC 7810. The embossed characters are intended for transfer of data either by use of imprinters or by visual or machine reading.

ISO/IEC 10373 specifies the test procedures used to check cards against the parameters specified in this part of ISO/IEC 7811.

This part of ISO/IEC 7811 specifies the requirements for cards used for identification. It takes into consideration both human and machine aspects and states minimum requirements.

NOTE — Numeric values in the SI and/or Imperial measurement system in this part of ISO/IEC 7811 may have been rounded off and therefore are consistent with, but not exactly equal to, each other. Either system may be used, but the two should not be intermixed or reconverted. The original design was made using the Imperial measurement system.

2 Conformance

An identification card is in conformance with this part of ISO/IEC 7811 if it meets all mandatory requirements specified herein.

A prerequisite for conformance with this part of ISO/IEC 7811 is conformance with ISO/IEC 7810.

3 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO/IEC 7811. At the time of publication the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO/IEC 7811 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/IEC 7810:1995, *Identification cards — Physical characteristics.*

ISO/IEC 7811-1:1995, *Identification cards — Recording technique — Part 1: Embossing.*

ISO/IEC 7812-1:1993, *Identification cards — Identification of issuers — Part 1: Numbering system.*

ISO/IEC 7812-2:1993, *Identification cards — Identification of issuers — Part 2: Application and registration procedures.*

4 Definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO/IEC 7811, the definition of "identification card" given in ISO/IEC 7810 and the following definition apply.

4.1 identification number: The number that identifies the card holder.

5 Assigned areas

Two areas for embossing shall be assigned to the card as shown in figure 1.

Area 1: Area reserved for the identification number according to ISO/IEC 7812. The characters in this

area and imprints of the area are intended both for visual and machine reading.

Area 2: Area provided for the card holder's identification data such as name, address, and other data which may be required. It is called "name and address area". Data contained in this area of the card or imprinted from the area are normally intended for visual reading only.

6 Identification number line

The identification number line provides space for a single line of characters of the type specified in ISO/IEC 7811-1 and comprises a maximum of 19 character positions at a nominal spacing of 7 characters per 25,4 mm (7 characters per inch)

The number of utilized (embossed) character positions will depend upon application requirements.

NOTE — When designing a new system, it is advisable to provide for maximum flexibility of use, i.e.:

— justify the embossed identification number to the left;

— make allowances for an identification number with maximum length;

— for financial applications if a character position is available, a blank space is recommended to be inserted between the issuer identification and the individual account identifier of the identification number (refer to ISO/IEC 7812).

If these provisions are not taken into account, it may be necessary to agree on certain limitations before the interchange of cards and data among different systems can effectively take place.

The location specifications (see figure 1) shall be as follows:

a) distance, *A*, between the centreline of the identification number line and the bottom edge of the card:

21,42 mm ± 0,12 mm (0,843 in ± 0,005 in)

b) distance, *B*, between the centreline of the first character position and the left edge of the card:

10,18 mm ± 0,25 mm (0,401 in ± 0,010 in)

c) distance, *C*, between the centreline of the first character position and the 19th character position shall not exceed:

65,31 mm ± 0,76 mm (2,571 in ± 0,030 in)

d) maximum distance, *H*, from the bottom edge of the card to the top of Area 1 shall be:

24,03 mm (0,946 in)

7 Name and address area

The name and address area provides space for four lines of 27 characters each at a nominal spacing of 10 characters per 25,4 mm (10 characters per inch) of the type specified in ISO/IEC 7811-1. Any information embossed in the name and address area should always be embossed as far as possible from the identification number (see figure 1).

WARNING — Those card issuers who require embossment of four name and address lines should be aware that the imprinted documents produced from their cards may not be acceptable in an interchange environment due to OCR clear area requirements on some types of OCR reading equipment.

The location specifications (see figure 1) shall be as follows:

a) maximum height, *D*, of the name and address area:

14,53 mm (0,572 in)

NOTE — The measurement is referenced to the printing surface and does not include tolerances.

b) bottom margin, *E*, between name and address area and the edge of the card:

2,41 mm min. (0,095 in min.)
3,30 mm max. (0,130 in max.)

NOTE — When used in conjunction with a magnetic stripe, the minimum margin should be 2,54 mm (0,100 in); see ISO/IEC 7810.

c) the distance, *F*, between the centreline of the first character position of each line and the left edge of the card:

7,65 mm ± 0,25 mm (0,301 in ± 0,010 in)

NOTE — The first character in the name and address area need not be justified to the left. However, the use of 27 character positions is based on 7,65 mm (0,301 in) distance to the edge of the card as stated above.

d) distance, *G*, between the centreline of the first character position and the 27th character position shall not exceed:

66,04 mm ± 0,76 mm (2,600 in ± 0,030 in)

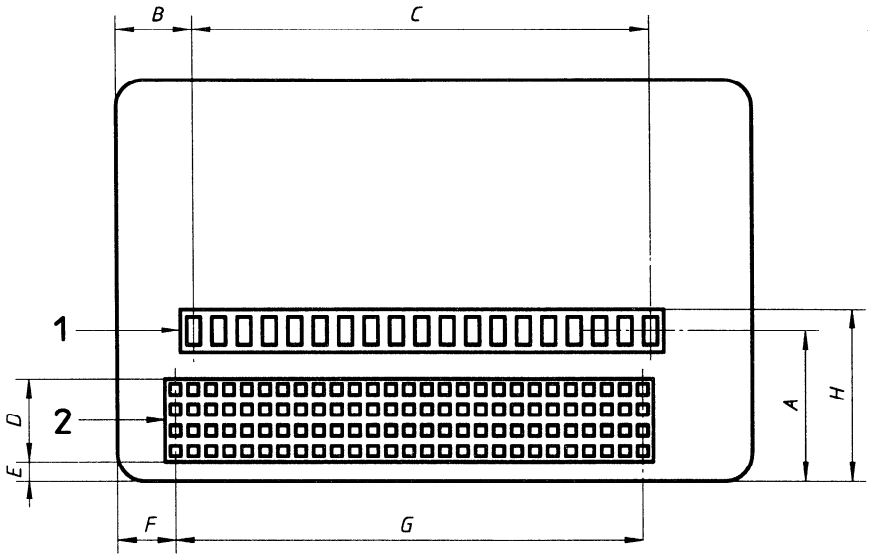

Figure 1 — Embossing locations

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Descriptors: data processing, data storage devices, banking documents, financial documents, identification cards, recording, representation of characters, embossing, specifications.

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