

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**ISO
8109**

Second edition
1990-12-01

Banking and related financial services — Securities — Format of Eurobonds

*Banque et services financiers liés aux opérations bancaires — Valeurs
mobilières — Format des Eurobonds*



Reference number
ISO 8109:1990(E)

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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 8109 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 68, *Banking and related financial services*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 8109:1985), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Since the end of the 1960s, states, governmental and supranational institutes, businesses and companies throughout the world have raised large amounts of money in internationally traded currencies by issuing bonds, notes, debentures and similar bearer securities outside their own countries. For this purpose the issuers usually engaged syndicates of foreign finance institutes as managers, underwriters and/or sellers; by means of the international capital markets, mainly the so-called Euromarket, they were able to place these securities with investors throughout the world. The issuing is regularly followed by a more or less lively trading in these securities, a large proportion of these issues being listed on one or more stock exchanges. The securities are either kept by the investors themselves, or, in most cases, entrusted to banks and brokers, who in turn in many cases pass them on to the custody of central clearing institutes or central depositories.

This issue activity, which constitutes an important part of the so-called Euromarket (even though it extends far beyond the borders of Europe), has continued to develop and expand.

Those who are entrusted with the handling of the securities themselves have a difficult task because of the large number of security sheets involved. The process of handling, beginning with the delivery for the initial placement, followed by the settlement of the trades, and ending with the safekeeping and administration (collection of interest and capital due, exercising of options, etc.), is rendered all the more difficult through having formats that often vary substantially from those that are customary in the country of the custodian. The reason being that, until 1982, no comprehensive regulations for the format of Eurobonds existed. The format is only subject to regulations when, and this is by no means the rule, the securities are admitted to listing on a stock exchange.

However, some stock exchanges have no regulations concerning the securities format provided, or if they have, these are sometimes so loosely conceived that even when the Eurobonds are admitted on a given stock exchange, their format may be unacceptable to those responsible for handling them.

There is, therefore, an urgent need for an International Standard defining and laying down the format characteristics for Eurobonds, this standardizing of the format leading to a rationalization of the administration of Eurobonds and an overall reduction in costs.

Recently, various possibilities of scanning securities electronically have been devised. This International Standard takes this into account. It is to be expected, however, that any institution that acquires machines for the electronical scanning of securities, will wish to use these not only for Eurobonds, but for other securities as well. Consequently, a separate International Standard (ISO 9144) deals with the position and structure of the optical character recognition line on all types of securities.

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)

ISO 8109:1990

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/33665631-235c-486c-b8e0-9fd652225ff4/iso-8109-1990>

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Banking and related financial services — Securities — Format of Eurobonds

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the format characteristics of Eurobonds, for example, physical representation of Eurobonds with regard to size, paper, printing, layout and contents. The format specified in this International Standard may be used for all Eurobonds irrespective of issuer or place of issue. The format specified in this International Standard may not be applicable to Eurobonds whose format is regulated by national entities.

This International Standard applies to Eurobonds as defined in clause 3. However, any contrary applicable law, rule, regulation or stock exchange requirement, whether or not having the force of law, has preference. Where these regulations do not specifically apply or require performance to a lesser extent than that required under this International Standard, the latter shall apply.

2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard 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 216:1975, *Writing paper and certain classes of printed matter — Trimmed sizes — A and B series*.

ISO 1073-2:1976, *Alphanumeric character sets for optical recognition — Part 2: Character set OCR-B — Shapes and dimensions of the printed image*.

1) To be published.

ISO 1831:1980, *Printing specifications for optical character recognition*.

ISO 3166:1988, *Codes for the representation of names of countries*.

ISO 4217:1990, *Codes for the representation of currencies and funds*.

ISO 6166:1987, *Securities — International securities identification numbering system (ISIN)*.

ISO 9144:—¹⁾, *Securities — Optical character recognition line — Position and structure*.

3 Definition

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definition applies.

Eurobonds: Printed debt instruments mostly in bearer form, initially offered entirely or to a large extent outside the country of the borrower or issued by a supranational organization, which are free of any governmental regulations, provide for payment of principal and interest free of withholding tax and are marketed internationally.

4 General layout and sizes

4.1 General layout

4.1.1 The Eurobond consists of

- a) the security sheet which shows the general data of the Eurobond concerned;
- b) the coupon sheet, if any, which contains the coupons for the payment of interest.

4.1.2 Security sheet and coupon sheet form one complete unit. The coupon sheet shall be placed on the right-hand side of the face of the bond.

4.2 Security sheet

4.2.1 The size of the security sheet shall be ISO A4 (297 mm x 210 mm) (vertical) in accordance with ISO 216.

4.2.2 There shall be a blank margin of 10 mm surrounding the face of the security sheet.

4.3 Coupon sheet

4.3.1 The coupon sheet shall allow for the printing of coupons in up to three adjacent vertical columns. The size of each column shall be 297 mm x 105 mm.

4.3.2 The size of each individual coupon shall be as follows:

- length: 105 mm
- height: 33 mm

4.3.3 There shall be a blank margin of 3 mm surrounding the face of each individual coupon on the left-hand side, on the top and on the right-hand side. Immediately above the bottom edge of the coupon there shall be a clear area 12 mm high running across the entire coupon.

4.3.4 A clearly visible dotted line shall be printed vertically and horizontally between adjacent coupons and between the security sheet and the coupon sheet.

4.3.5 Where more than 27 coupons are required (e.g. for perpetual or long-dated issues), either of the following alternatives applies:

- Solution by means of talon:
A talon of the same width, but twice the height of a normal coupon is attached after the last payable coupon. Against the talon a new coupon sheet must be obtainable. Such a coupon sheet may consist of up to four columns of nine coupons each and a fifth column of seven coupons and the talon.
- Solution by means of exchange of bond:
The terms and conditions of the issue must provide for the exchange of the security sheet, as soon as the last coupon has been detached, against a new, equivalent security sheet complete with successive coupons. On the bonds is-

sued in exchange for security sheets whose coupons have been exhausted, the maturity of the coupons with which they are issued shall be clearly indicated.

4.3.6 Within each column the coupons shall run chronologically and numerically upwards from the bottom of the column; the outer right-hand column containing the coupons that are due first.

4.3.7 In the case where the coupon sheet offers more space than is required for the number of coupons, the space(s) not required for the printing of coupons should be placed below the first coupon that is to be paid. Such space(s) shall be detached before issuance of the Eurobond or shall be over-printed or blacked-out to an extent that prevents any falsification or fraudulent insertion.

4.3.8 Example

Column containing nine coupons; a total of 20 coupons being issued:

		315 mm	
297 mm	20	11	2
	19	10	1
	18	9	X
	17	8	X
	16	7	X
	15	6	X
	14	5	X
	13	4	X
	12	3	X

5 Paper and printing

5.1 Measures shall be taken to provide both easy and reliable handling and protection against falsification, forgery and counterfeiting. As a minimum requirement the following measures shall be adopted:

5.1.1 The paper shall have a multi-tone watermark of a size and quality that permits the watermark to be easily recognized. The production and the sale of the paper shall be controlled.

5.1.2 The paper shall weigh 100 g/m², contain at least 50 % rag and be adequately resistant to tearing and folding.

5.1.3 For other paper characteristics, ISO 1831 applies.

Denomination

ISIN

Series Certif. Number

<0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

£5,000

XYZ Company

(incorporation/domicile)

Issue of £75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

The issue of the Notes was authorised pursuant to a Resolution of the Board of Directors of **XYZ Company** (the "Company") passed on 4th June, 1986.

This Note forms one of a series of 15,000 Notes in the denomination of £5,000 each, in an aggregate principal amount of £75,000,000 constituted by a Trust Deed (the "Trust Deed") dated 21st July, 1986.

The Company for value received hereby promises to pay to the bearer on 21st July, 1994 or on such earlier date as the principal sum hereunder mentioned may become repayable in accordance with the Terms and Conditions endorsed hereon the principal sum of

£5,000 (Five Thousand Pounds Sterling)

together with interest on the said principal sum at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum payable annually in arrear on 21st July (the first such payment to be made on 21st July, 1987 and to amount to a full year's interest) and together with such other amounts as may be payable, all subject to and in accordance with the said Terms and Conditions and the provisions of the Trust Deed.

IN WITNESS whereof this Note has been executed on behalf of the Company.

XYZ Company

By:



Director

Dated as of 21st July, 1986.

Issued in London, England.

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **R8**
due on
21st July,
1994

<08+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **R7**
due on
21st July,
1993

<07+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **R6**
due on
21st July,
1992

<06+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **5**
due on
21st July,
1991

<05+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **4**
due on
21st July,
1990

<04+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **3**
due on
21st July,
1989

<03+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **2**
due on
21st July,
1988

<02+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

XYZ Company (incorporation/domicile)
£75,000,000 10 per cent. Notes 1994

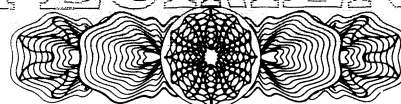
This Coupon is payable to bearer, separately negotiable and subject to the Terms and Conditions on the said Notes.

£500 **1**
due on
21st July,
1987

<01+0005000+GB0123456789+00+000000>

BRADBURY WILKINSON (AERO-PRINT) LIMITED

SPECIMEN



5.2 On the face of the security sheet and of each individual coupon [inside the blank margin (see 4.2.2 and 4.3.3)] a frame shall be printed either from a direct engraved plate (intaglio print) or by means of indirect letterpress (dry offset process), in both cases adopting mechanically produced guilloches which, in the case of indirect letterpress, shall be multicoloured. On the security sheet, this frame shall extend along all four sides and it shall have a width of at least 10 mm and no more than 15 mm; on each coupon the frame shall extend along three sides only (left-hand side, top and right-hand side) and it shall be exactly 2 mm wide (tolerance $\pm 0,5$ mm).

5.3 Within the frame [but not in the clear area (4.3.3 and 6.2.1)] a background shall be printed by means of indirect letterpress (dry offset process) adopting mechanically-produced matching multicoloured guilloches printed with a close registered multicoloured rainbow effect.

5.4 The same plate shall be used for all issues of the same issuer in the same currency.

5.5 Different colours shall be used for different denominations of securities in the same issue, and for different issues of the same issuer in the same year.

5.6 The name of the printing firm shall appear in small type in the same colour as the frame on the bottom margin of the security sheet.

6 Text and special indications

6.1 General remarks

The currency shall be clearly indicated by use of letters and signs. Where the full name of the currency (for example, dollar) or a symbol (for example, \$) is used, it should be preceded by the full name of the country to which it belongs (for example, United States) or its alpha-2 country code (for example, US) in accordance with ISO 3166. For issues denominated in an artificial or multiple currency (for example, European currency unit), a currency designation shall be used which clearly identifies the currency. Where currency codes are used, ISO 4217 applies.

6.2 Security sheet

6.2.1 A clear area, the bottom edge of which shall be 39 mm below the top edge of the security sheet and which shall be 9 mm high running across the security sheet from frame to frame, is to be reserved for the printing of an optical scanning machine reading line. This line shall be printed in constant-strokewidth OCR-B font and the horizontal centre line of such printed line shall be 34,5 mm below the top edge of the security sheet. The OCR-B font consists of the 47 OCR-B, size I characters of the sub-set 2, as defined in ISO 1073-2. The following is a photographic reproduction of the 47 OCR-B characters of the sub-set 2 (not to scale; actual height of digits is 2,66 mm):

0123456789

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

< + > * - = / . , ! SPACE