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Information and documentation — Transliteration of Thai

Information et documentation — Translittération du thaï

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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 11940 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Conversion of written languages*.

Annex A forms an integral part of this International Standard. Annexes B and C are for information only.

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Information and documentation — Transliteration of Thai

1 Scope

This International Standard establishes a system for the transliteration¹⁾ of Thai characters into Roman characters. One set of rules is provided for a completely reversible stringent conversion where principles of transliteration are applied without exception.

This Romanized transliteration system is a means of converting the Thai writing system into a Roman alphabet writing system. Since there are fewer Roman characters than Thai characters, diacritical marks, punctuation marks, and a combination of two Roman characters, or a digraph, are needed to represent one Thai character. The aim of this system is to provide a means of international communication of written messages in a form which permits the automatic transmission or reconstitution of these by men or machines. This system of conversion is intended to provide complete and unambiguous reversibility. It is possible that the results obtained from this system will not provide for correct pronunciation of the original Thai text. However, they will serve as a means of finding the Thai graphisms automatically and thus to allow anyone with a knowledge of Thai to pronounce the Thai text correctly. An attempt to transpose a preposed vowel after an initial consonant may comfort those who are used to the Roman writing system where a vowel always follows a consonant to form a syllable, unless it is a syllable without an initial. It is best to leave the preposed vowel in the Thai transliteration system where it is, because a transliteration system is not a transcription system.

Capital letters are reserved for writing the initial in proper nouns. It is unwise to make use of capital letters in the transliteration system for certain characters, otherwise common nouns and proper nouns cannot be distinguished from one another.

This system is based on phonetic logic in the selection of transliterated representations, as much as possible, in order to lessen the burden on those who wish to learn the system.

2 Normative reference

The following standard contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the edition indicated was 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 edition of the standard indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/IEC 10646-1:1993, *Information Technology — Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) — Part 1: Architecture and Basic Multilingual Plane*.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definitions apply.

3.1 characters: Alphabetic letters, digits, special markers, and other markers.

3.2 Thai characters: Thai alphabetic letters, Thai digits, and special markers which are divided into the following:

1) Definitions, explanations for terms used (transliteration, transcription, etc.) appear in annex A.

3.2.1 Thai alphabetic letters:

3.2.1.1 Consonants:

ก ข ฃ ค ฅ ฉ ง จ ฉ ซ ฌ ญ ณ ฎ ฏ ฐ ฑ ฒ ณ
 ด ต ถ ท ธ น บ ป ผ ฝ พ ฟ ภ ม ย ร ฤ ล ฦ
 ว ศ ษ ส ห ฬ อ ฮ

3.2.1.2 Vowels

3.2.1.2.1 Vowels written on the same level as consonants:

อ ำ ะ แ โ ใ ไ ำ

3.2.1.2.2 Vowels written above the line (upper level characters):

๑ ๒ ๓ ๔ ๕ ๖ ๗

3.2.1.2.3 Vowels written below the line (lower level characters):

๘ ๙ ๑๐

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3.2.1.3 Tone Marks and Cancellation Mark written in the uppermost level²⁾ (uppermost level characters):

๑ ๒ ๓ ๔ ๕

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3.2.2 Thai Digits:

๐ ๑ ๒ ๓ ๔ ๕ ๖ ๗ ๘ ๙

3.2.3 Special Markers:

๑ ๒ ๓ ๔ ๕ ๖ ๗ ๘

3.3 special symbols: Refers to the four symbols used to differentiate one Roman character that represents the same sound converted from different Thai characters:

- 3.3.1 macron —
- 3.3.2 macron below _
- 3.3.3 dot below .
- 3.3.4 horn ’

2) If a tone mark or a cancellation mark is directly over a consonant without an upper level character, it is adjusted to an upper level in typesetting and displaying on the computer screen for neatness of appearance.

4 Arrangement of character sequence

4.1 The conversion is made character by character from left to right.

4.2 A consonant can have either an upper level or a lower level character and/or an uppermost level character; the sequence of the characters must be as follows:

4.2.1 A consonant with either an upper level character or an uppermost level character, e.g.

$\overset{\text{a}}{\text{b}} = \text{b}^{\text{a}}$, or $\overset{\text{a}}{\text{b}}\overset{\text{c}}{\text{d}} = \text{b}^{\text{a}}\overset{\text{c}}{\text{d}}$:

- Type the consonant first; then
- Type the upper level character or the uppermost level character.

4.2.2 A consonant with both an upper level character and an uppermost level character, e.g.

$\overset{\text{a}}{\text{b}}\overset{\text{c}}{\text{d}} = \text{b}^{\text{a}}\overset{\text{c}}{\text{d}}$:

- Type the consonant first; then
- Type the uppermost level character, and
- Type the upper level character.

4.2.3 A consonant with a lower level character, e.g.

$\underset{\text{a}}{\text{b}} = \text{b}_a$:

- Type the consonant first; then
- Type the lower level character.

4.2.4 A consonant with an uppermost level character and a lower level character, e.g.

$\overset{\text{a}}{\underset{\text{b}}{\text{c}}} = \overset{\text{a}}{\text{c}}\underset{\text{b}}{\text{c}}$:

- Type the consonant first; then
- Type the uppermost level character, and
- Type the lower level character.

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It must be noted that both an upper level character and a lower level character cannot concurrently appear with the same consonant.

5 Typing sequence

5.1 If a Roman character contains one special symbol, type the character before the symbol.

5.2 If a Roman character contains two special symbols, type the character first, then the macron, and the dot below or the horn respectively.

6 Romanization table

No.	Thai character	Code position of Thai character in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Romanized character	Code position(s) of romanized characters in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Comments
1	ก	0E01	k	006B	Ko Kai
2	ข	0E02	kh	006B+0304+0068	Kho Khai
3	ฃ	0E03	kh̄	006B+0304+0323+0068	Kho Khuat
4	ค	0E04	kh	006B+0068	Kho Khwai
5	ค	0E05	k'h	006B+031B+0068	Kho Khon
6	ฆ	0E06	kh̄	006B+0304+0068	Kho Rakhang
7	ง	0E07	ng	006E+0067	Ngo Ngu
8	จ	0E08	c	0063	Cho Chan
9	ฉ	0E09	ch	0063+0304+0068	Cho Ching
10	ช	0E0A	ch	0063+0068	Cho Chang
11	ซ	0E0B	s	0074	So So
12	ฌ	0E0C	ch̄	0063+0323+0068	Cho Choe
13	ญ	0E0D	y	0079+0323	Yo Ying
14	ฎ	0E0E	ḍ	0064+0323	Do Chada
15	ฏ	0E0F	ṭ	0074+0323	To Patak
16	ฐ	0E10	th̄	0074+0304+0323+0068	Tho Than
17	ฑ	0E11	th	0074+0331+0068	Tho Nangmontho
18	ฒ	0E12	t'h	0074+031B+0068	Tho Phuthao
19	ณ	0E13	ṇ	006E+0323	No Nen
20	ด	0E14	d	0064	Do Dek

No.	Thai character	Code position of Thai character in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Romanized character	Code position(s) of romanized characters in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Comments
21	ต	0E15	t	0074	To Tao
22	ถ	0E16	th	0074+0304+0068	Tho Thung
23	ท	0E17	th	0074+0068	Tho Thahan
24	ธ	0E18	th	0074+0323+0068	Tho Thong
25	น	0E19	n	006E	No Nu
26	บ	0E1A	b	0062	Bo Baimai
27	ป	0E1B	p	0070	Po Pla
28	ผ	0E1C	ph	0070+0304+0068	Pho Phung
29	ฝ	0E1D	f	0066+0304	Fo Fa
30	พ	0E1E	ph	0070+0068	Pho Phan
31	ฟ	0E1F	f	0066	Fo Fan
32	ภ	0E20	ph	0070+0323+0068	Pho Samphao
33	ม	0E21	m	006D	Mo Ma
34	ย	0E22	y	0079	Yo Yak
35	ร	0E23	r	0072	Ro Rua
36	ฤ	0E24	v	0076	Ru
37	ล	0E25	l	006C	Lo Ling
38	ฬ	0E26	ł	0142	Lu
39	ว	0E27	w	0077	Wo Waen
40	ศ	0E28	ś	0073+0304+0323	So Sala
41	ษ	0E29	ś	0073+0304+031B	So Rusi

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No.	Thai character	Code position of Thai character in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Romanized character	Code position(s) of romanized characters in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Comments
42	ส	0E2A	s̄	0073+0304	So Sua
43	ห	0E2B	h̄	0068+0304	Ho Hip
44	ฬ	0E2C	l̄	006C+0323	Lo Chula
45	อ	0E2D	x	0078	O Ang
46	ฮ	0E2E	h̄	0068+0323	Ho Nokhuk
47	ะ	0E30	a	0061	Sara A
48	เ	0E31	ā	0061+0323	Mai Han-Akat
49	า	0E32	ā	0061+0304	Sara Aa
50	ำ	0E33	ā	00E5	Sara Am
51	ิ	0E34	i	0069	Sara I
52	ี	0E35	i	012B	Sara Ii
53	ุ	0E36	u	0075+0323	Sara Ue
54	ู	0E37	ū	0075+0304+0323	Sara Uee
55	อ	0E38	u	0075	Sara U
56	ุ	0E39	ū	0075+0304	Sara Uu
57	ะ	0E40	e	0065	Sara E
58	เ	0E41	æ	00E6	Sara Ae
59	อ	0E42	o	006F	Sara O
60	ไ	0E43	i	0131	Sara Ai Maimuan
61	ใ	0E44	i	0069+0323	Sara Ai Maimalai
62	ย	0E45	i	0268	Lakkhangyao

No.	Thai character	Code position of Thai character in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Romanized character	Code position(s) of romanized characters in ISO/IEC 10646-1	Comments
63	ิ	0E48	˘	0300	Mai Ek
64	ุ	0E49	ˆ	0302	Mai Tho
65	ึ	0E4A	ˇ	0301	Mai Tri
66	๓	0E4B	˘	030C	Mai Chattawa
67	๓	0E47	˘	0306	“Maitaikhu” shortens a long vowel syllable, when a short vowel symbol ๓ does not exist.
68	๓	0E4C	˘	0312	“Thanthakhat” silences a character or a group of characters when it appears above that character, which may be the last character of the group, such as สังข์ พิภพศรี ซอลัก ลักษมณีน.
69	๓	0E46	«	00AB	“Maiyamok” indicates a repetition of a word, a group of words or a phrase, or sometimes even a sentence.
70	๓	0E2F	≠	01C2	“Paiyanoi” indicates that the word has been shortened as in กรุงเทพมหานคร. It can combine with ลี as ๓ลี๓ which is equivalent to et cetera.
71	๓	0E4E	˘	007E	“Yamakkan” is written over the first member of a consonant cluster in old texts to indicate that the two consonants must be pronounced as a consonant cluster.

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