

TECHNICAL REPORT



Graphical symbols for use on equipment – Vocabulary

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IEC TR 62687:2015

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**GRAPHICAL SYMBOLS FOR USE ON EQUIPMENT –
VOCABULARY**

FOREWORD

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IEC 62687, which is a technical report, has been prepared by subcommittee 3C: Graphical symbols for use on equipment, of IEC technical committee 3: Information structures, documentation and graphical symbols.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2011. This edition constitutes a technical revision and includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) The title has changed from "terminology" to "vocabulary";
- b) Annex A has been added.

The text of this technical report is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
3C/2091/DTR	3C/2116/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical report can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

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INTRODUCTION

The publications cited in the Bibliography, published by IEC, ISO and ITU constitute the source for the glossary in this Technical report.

The terms are primarily collected from Clause 3, “Terms and definitions” of these publications but in some cases terms are also taken from other parts of these publications.

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GRAPHICAL SYMBOLS FOR USE ON EQUIPMENT – VOCABULARY

1 Scope

This Technical Report contains a collection of terms (glossary) used in IEC, ISO and ITU publications in the field of graphical symbols for use on equipment including some related fields.

Some terms are annotated and/or modified for the purpose of clarification.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

None.

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3 Terms and definitions (standards.iteh.ai)

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

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3.1 caution

signal word used to indicate a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury

[SOURCE: ISO 17724:2003, 6]

3.2 danger

signal word used to indicate an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in death or serious injury

[SOURCE: ISO 17724:2003, 18]

3.3 dynamic graphical symbol

graphical symbol for use on a monitor screen and a console display whose colour and/or appearance change in accordance with the internal status of the piece of equipment

3.4 glyph

recognizable abstract graphic symbol which is independent of any specific design

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 9541-1:1991, 3.12]

3.5 glyph image

image of a glyph, as obtained from a glyph representation displayed on a presentation surface

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 9541-1:1991, 3.15]

3.6

graphic symbol

visual representation of a graphic character or of a composite sequence

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 10646-1:1993, 4.19]

3.7

graphic character

character, other than a control function, that has a visual representation normally handwritten, printed, or displayed

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 10646-1:1993, 4.18]

3.8

graphical symbol

visually perceptible figure with a particular meaning used to transmit information independently of language

Note 1 to entry: The unique nature of graphical symbols is their language independence. Therefore, the use of letters and punctuation marks as graphical symbol elements should be avoided.

Note 2 to entry: Graphical symbols are usually abstract representations that stand for something but that require learning on the part of users to take on their meaning.

[SOURCE: IEC 80416-1:2008, 3.4]

[SOURCE: ISO 17724:2003, 31]

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3.9

graphical symbol for use on equipment

graphical symbol for use on associated assemblies intended to achieve a defined final objective

[SOURCE: Derived from IEC 80416-1:2008]

3.10

icon

graphical symbol presented on a screen or display

Note 1 to entry: Icons can be static, interactive and change as the result of user input or dynamic and change as the result of equipment status.

Note 2 to entry: Alternative definitions depending on domains are as follows:

- user interface [symbol / object] representing an object or a function of the computer system [ISO/IEC FCD 11581-10, 3.4 modified]
- symbol or combination of symbols in graphical user interfaces representing a function of the computer system
- object of manipulation of a function of the computer system through graphical user interfaces for computer applications
 - Icons should be graphical representations that convey information with a minimum reliance on language.
 - Icons have dynamic nature depending on the function of the computer system.
 - Icons may be entirely abstract, like graphical symbols, or pictorial, like pictograms, or fall at some point between those extremes.

[SOURCE: ISO 80416-4:2005, 3.3]