
**Information technology — Metadata
registries (MDR) —**

**Part 6:
Registration**

*Technologies de l'information — Registres de métadonnées (RM) —
Partie 6: Enregistrement*
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ISO/IEC 11179-6:2005

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 11179-6 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 32, *Data management and interchange*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 11179-6:1997).

ISO/IEC 11179 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Metadata registries (MDR)*:

- *Part 1: Framework*
- *Part 2: Classification*
- *Part 3: Registry metamodel and basic attributes*
- *Part 4: Formulation of data definitions*
- *Part 5: Naming and identification principles*
- *Part 6: Registration*

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Introduction

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 specifies the procedure by which *administered items* required in various application areas could be registered and assigned an internationally unique identifier. The uniqueness of the identification of a registered *administered item* is determined by a combination of the Registration Authority Identifier (RAI), the unique identifier assigned to a *administered item* within a Registration Authority (RA), and the version under which an *administered item* registration is submitted or updated. The registered *administered items* are included in Registries of Administered Items, maintained by a Registration Authority, to which the administered items logically and functionally belong. An organization wishing to become a Registration Authority may do so in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Annex A.

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 has been revised to address other types of Administered Items besides data elements: data element concepts, conceptual domains and value domains. Each of these types of Administered Items, including data elements, is represented within a metadata registry by administration records that document the common administration and identification, naming and definition details together with their administered item-specific details.

Within this part of ISO/IEC 11179 the use of “Metadata Registry” denotes an implementation of a metadata registry that is based upon ISO/IEC 11179 and that is managed by a Registration Authority.

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Information technology — Metadata registries (MDR) —

Part 6: Registration

1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 specifies the procedure by which *administered items* required in various application areas could be registered and assigned an internationally unique identifier. For each Administered Item to be registered, this part of ISO/IEC 11179 defines the type of information that is specified, the conditions that are met, and the procedure(s) that are followed.

The requirements and procedure contained herein apply to all Administered Items specified in ISO/IEC 11179-3. In addition, administration records that document the common administration and identification, naming and definition details as required by, and associated with, any administered item-specific details are also governed by this part of ISO/IEC 11179.

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 only addresses the metadata that is used to specify all types of Administered Items. Others may want to use this part of ISO/IEC 11179 to register and manage locally defined Administered Item types that are not defined in ISO/IEC 11179-3.

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 does not address the metadata that is used to specify particular types of Administered Items such as data elements and value domains. This part of ISO/IEC 11179 does NOT specify the registry's system design, file organization techniques, storage media, programming languages, etc. to be used in its implementation.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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/IEC 11179-1, *Information technology — Metadata registries (MDR) — Part 1: Framework*

ISO/IEC 11179-3, *Information technology — Metadata registries (MDR) — Part 3: Registry metamodel and basic attributes*

ISO/IEC 6523-1, *Information technology — Structure for the identification of organizations and organization parts — Part 1: Identification of organization identification schemes*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1

Administered Item

registry item for which administrative information is recorded in an Administration Record [ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.1]

ISO/IEC 11179-6:2005(E)

3.2 administrative status
designation of the status in the administrative process of a **Registration Authority** for handling **registration** requests
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.7]

3.3 data identifier
DI
unique identifier for an Administered Item within a **Registration Authority**
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.52]

3.4 information interchange
process of sending and receiving data in such a manner that the information content, or meaning assigned to the data, is not altered during the transmission

3.5 International Code Designator
ICD
identifier of an organization identification scheme

NOTE Based on ISO/IEC 6523-1:1998, definition 3.8.

3.6 International Code Designator value
ICD value
identifier allocated to a particular organization identification scheme
[ISO/IEC 6523-1:1998, definition 3.9]

3.7 international registration data identifier
IRDI
internationally unique identifier for an **Administered Item** as defined in the framework of ISO/IEC 11179

3.8 item identifier
identifier for an item
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.76]

3.9 item registration authority identifier
identifier of the **Registration Authority** registering the item
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.77]

3.10 metadata item
instance of a **metadata object**
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.2.19]

NOTE In all parts of ISO/IEC 11179, this term is applied only to instances of metadata objects described by the metamodel in Clause 4 of ISO/IEC 11179-3. Examples include instances of Data Elements, Data Element Concepts, Permissible Values etc.

3.11 metadata object
object type defined by a metamodel
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.2.20]

3.12**metadata register**

information store or database maintained by a **Metadata Registry**
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.2.21]

3.13**Metadata Registry****MDR**

information system for registering metadata
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.2.22]

NOTE The associated information store or database is known as a **metadata register**.

3.14**OPI Source Indicator****OPIS**

data element used to specify the source for the **organization part identifier**
[ISO/IEC 6523-1:1998, definition 3.12]

3.15**OPIS value**

particular value (digit or capital letter) taken by the **OPIS** to designate the source of an **organization part identifier**
[ISO/IEC 6523-1:1998, definition 3.13]

3.16**organization identifier**

identifier assigned to an organization within an organization identification scheme, and unique within that scheme

[ISO/IEC 6523-1:1998, definition 3.10]

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3.17**organization part identifier****OPI**

identifier allocated to a particular organization part
[ISO/IEC 6523-1:1998, definition 3.11]

3.18**registration**

assignment of an unambiguous identifier to an **Administered Item** in a way that makes the assignment available to interested parties

NOTE Adapted from definition in Annex E of the ISO/IEC JTC 1 Directives.

3.19**registration acting body****RAB**

type of organizations participating in the registration process of **Administered Items**

NOTE Currently, there are three RABs: **Registration Authorities** (RA), **Responsible Organizations** (RO) and **Submitting Organizations** (SO).

3.20**Registration Authority**

organization responsible for maintaining a register
[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.121]

3.21

registration authority identifier

identifier assigned to a **Registration Authority**

[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.122]

3.22

registration status

designation of the status in the registration life-cycle of an **Administered Item**

[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.3.125]

3.23

registry item

metadata item recorded in a Metadata Registry

[ISO/IEC 11179-3:2003, definition 3.2.29]

3.24

responsible organization

RO

organization or unit within an organization that is the authoritative source for attributes of the **Administered Item**

3.25

submitting organization

SO

organization or unit within an organization that has submitted requests for registry action

3.26

version identifier

VI

identifier assigned to a version of an **Administered Item**

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4 Concept of operation

4.1 Administered Items

4.1.1 Administered Item types

A conceptual model of a Metadata Registry for describing data is provided in ISO/IEC 11179-3. ISO/IEC 11179-3 specifies a number of Administered Items. These are: data element, data element concept, value domain, conceptual domain, classification scheme, context (for administered item), derivation rule, object class, property, and representation class. ISO/IEC 11179-1 provides the means for understanding and associating the individual parts and is the foundation for a conceptual understanding of metadata and metadata registries.

This part of the ISO/IEC 11179 standard addresses the specifics that are common to all Administered Items. It is envisioned that an organization may extend its Metadata Registry with additional items that are to be administered. It is also envisioned that the standard may be extended at a later time to administer additional items. Others may want to use this part of ISO/IEC 11179 to register and manage locally defined administered item types that are not defined in ISO/IEC 11179-3.

4.1.2 Identification of Administered Items

Administered Items registered under the provisions of this part of ISO/IEC 11179 are each assigned one International Registration Data Identifier (IRDI). The Registration Authority Identifier (RAI) portion of the International Registration Data Identifier (IRDI), as specified in ISO/IEC 6523, is optional in those registries that do not exchange contents with other registries. This identifier value uniquely identifies the Administered Item within the framework of this part of ISO/IEC 11179. Annex A describes the structure of the International Registration Data Identifier that is used to identify each Administered Item.

4.1.3 Status categories

4.1.3.1 General

There are two types of status categories. The registration status is a designation of the level of registration or quality of metadata or progression of an Administered Item. The administration status is a designation of the status in the administrative process of a Registration Authority for handling registration requests. Registration status categories shall apply to individual Administered Items that have been entered into the metadata register.

An Administration Status specifies the process that an Administered Item is undergoing within a Registration Status. It identifies the process that is taking place within a registration status.. It is very probable that the permissible administrative status values will be dependent upon the current registration status that an Administered Item possesses. A Registration Authority will establish the focus of the use of administrative status. A Registration Authority determines the allowed values of this attribute. It is the responsibility of the Registration Authority to refine, publish, and implement this administrative feature.

4.1.3.2 Summary of registration status categories

Registration status specifies the state of an Administered Item that is in the metadata register. Registration status categories shall apply to individual Administered Items that have been entered into the metadata register. Administered Item registration status categories are of two types, lifecycle and documentation. The lifecycle registration status categories address improvement and progression towards levels of perfection of the quality of the metadata of the item and of the preferences of usage of the Administered Item. The documentation registration status categories are used to denote positions at which there will be no more progression in quality of metadata or use of the Administered Item. The relationships among these status categories, along with the requirements for an Administered Item to achieve a particular registration status level, are presented in Table 1.

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Table 1 — Registration status levels and criteria

Administered Item registration status category	Status criteria
Lifecycle Statuses	
Preferred Standard	The Registration Authority confirms that the Administered Item is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preferred for use within the community that uses this metadata register.
Standard	The Registration Authority confirms that the Administered Item is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • of sufficient quality and • of broad interest for use in the community that uses this metadata register.
Qualified	The Registration Authority has confirmed that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the mandatory metadata attributes are complete and • the mandatory metadata attributes conform to applicable quality requirements.
Recorded	The Registration Authority has confirmed that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all mandatory metadata attributes have been completed.
Candidate	The Administered Item has been proposed for progression through the registration levels.
Incomplete	Submitter wishes to make the community that uses this metadata register aware of the existence of an Administered Item in their local domain.
Retired	The Registration Authority has approved the Administered Item as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no longer recommended for use in the community that uses this metadata register and • should no longer be used.
Superseded	The Registration Authority determined that the Administered Item is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no longer recommended for use by the community that uses this metadata register, and • a successor Administered Item is now preferred for use.
Documentation Statuses	
Historical	The Submitter wishes to make the community that uses this metadata register aware of the existence of an Administered Item that was used in the past.
Application	The Registration Authority wishes to make the community that uses this metadata register aware of the existence of an Administered Item in their local domain that is in an application system and is not specified at the logical level. This item may be very well described.

While the general intent is to progress as many Administered Items as possible from “Incomplete” to the “Preferred Standard” registration status, progression to a status higher than “Recorded” or “Qualified” may not be appropriate. That is, necessary metadata attribute documentation for an Administered Item may not be available to establish required documentation for the “Recorded” status, may not be of the quality necessary for the “Qualified” status, or identification as “Preferred Standard” Administered Item may not be appropriate. Such Administered Items shall be held at their current status level in the metadata register to facilitate understanding of and access to these Administered Items by the community that uses this metadata register.

The status category of an Administered Item entry shall be based upon the completeness of the data entered, its accuracy, and its conformance to the established format and syntax. The registration status category shall be as listed below.

- a) Incomplete — An Administered Item with the “Incomplete” status shall indicate that the Submitter wishes to make the community that uses this metadata register aware of the existence of an Administered Item in their local domain. An Administered Item in the status of “Incomplete” in the metadata register shall not be maintained under version control. The minimum metadata attribute documentation for the “Incomplete” status in the metadata register shall be as follows:
 - 1) administered item identifier,

- 2) designation,
- 3) definition,
- 4) submitter organization name,
- 5) submitter contact name, and
- 6) submitter contact information.

The registered Administered Item may not contain all mandatory attribute values.

- b) Candidate — An Administered Item with the “Candidate” status shall indicate that it has been proposed for progression through the registration levels. Administered Items in the “Candidate” status are maintained under version control. The minimum metadata attribute documentation for the “Candidate” status is administered item identifier, designation, definition, submitter organization name, submitter contact name, submitter contact information, stewardship organization name, stewardship contact name, and stewardship contact information. The registered Administered Item may not contain all mandatory attribute values.
- c) Recorded — An Administered Item with the “Recorded” status shall mean that all mandatory metadata attributes have been completed. An Administered Item in the “Recorded” status implies that the Administered Item may be shared across domains. The contents of the mandatory metadata attributes may not conform to quality requirements. The Submitter may request the retirement of an Administered Item in the registration status of “Recorded” at any time. Administered Items in “Recorded” registration status or higher are maintained under version control.
- d) Qualified — An Administered Item with the “Qualified” status shall mean that the Administration Item had a “Recorded” registration status and the Registration Authority has confirmed that the mandatory metadata attributes are complete and conform to applicable quality requirements. In the event that an Administered Item is not approved by the Registration Authority for the “Qualified” registration status level, it shall remain at the “Recorded” registration status level.
- e) Standard — An Administered Item with the “Standard” status indicates that the Administration Item had a “Qualified” registration status and the Registration Authority confirms that the Administered Item is of sufficient quality and of broad interest for use in the community that uses this metadata register. There may be more than one “Standard” Administered Item that addresses the same function, concept etc.
- f) Preferred Standard — An Administered Item with the “Preferred Standard” status means that the Registration Authority confirms that the Administered Item is preferred for use in the community that uses this metadata register.
- g) Retired — An Administered Item with the “Retired” status indicates that the Registration Authority has determined the Administered Item is no longer recommended for use in the community that uses this metadata register. A “Retired” Administered Item should no longer be used. Such Administered Items are retained in the metadata register archival storage facility for historic reference and research purposes. “Retired” Administered Items should include a reference to replacement Administered Items when appropriate. Only editorial edits of “Retired” Administered Items are permitted.
- h) Superseded — An Administered Item with the “Superseded” status indicates that the Registration Authority has determined the Administered Item is no longer recommended for use in the community that uses this metadata register. A “Superseded” Administered Item may be used but the successor Administered Item is the preferred for use. Such Administered Items are retained in the metadata register archival storage facility for historic reference purposes. “Superseded” Administered Items should include a reference to replacement Administered Items when appropriate. Only editorial edits of “Superseded” Administered Items are permitted.