



**SLOVENSKI STANDARD**  
**SIST ISO 21720:2018**  
**01-september-2018**

---

**XLIFF (format XML datoteke za izmenjavo lokalizacije)**

XLIFF (XML Localisation interchange file format)

XLIFF (Format de fichier XML pour l'échange de données de localisation)

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: ISO 21720:2017**

[SIST ISO 21720:2018](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>

**ICS:**

35.240.30	Uporabniške rešitve IT v informatiki, dokumentiranju in založništvu	IT applications in information, documentation and publishing
-----------	---	--

**SIST ISO 21720:2018**

**en,fr,de**

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

SIST ISO 21720:2018

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>

INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD

ISO  
21720

First edition  
2017-11

---

---

**XLIFF (XML Localisation interchange  
file format)**

*XLIFF (Format de fichier XML pour l'échange de données de  
localisation)*

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW  
(standards.iteh.ai)**

SIST ISO 21720:2018

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>



Reference number  
ISO 21720:2017(E)

© ISO 2017

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

SIST ISO 21720:2018

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>



**COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT**

© ISO 2017, Published in Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office  
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11  
Fax +41 22 749 09 47  
copyright@iso.org  
www.iso.org

## 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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by OASIS (as XLIFF Version 2.0, August 2014) and was adopted, under a special "fast-track procedure", by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Terminology and other language and content resources*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Translation, interpreting and related technology*.

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

SIST ISO 21720:2018

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>



# XLIFF Version 2.0

## OASIS Standard

05 August 2014

### Specification URIs

This version:

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/os/xliff-core-v2.0-os.html> (Authoritative)

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/os/xliff-core-v2.0-os.pdf>

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/os/xliff-core-v2.0-os.xml>

Previous version:

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/cos01/xliff-core-v2.0-cos01.html> (Authoritative)

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/cos01/xliff-core-v2.0-cos01.pdf>

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/cos01/xliff-core-v2.0-cos01.xml>

Latest version:

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/xliff-core-v2.0.html> (Authoritative)

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/xliff-core-v2.0.pdf>

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/xliff-core-v2.0.xml>

Technical Committee: <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-000000000000/xliff-core-v2.0>  
OASIS XML Localisation Interchange File Format (XLIFF) TC

Chair:

Bryan Schnabel ([bryan.s.schnabel@tektronix.com](mailto:bryan.s.schnabel@tektronix.com)), Individual

Editors:

Tom Comerford ([tom@supratext.com](mailto:tom@supratext.com)), Individual

David Filip ([davidf@ul.ie](mailto:davidf@ul.ie)), Localisation Research Centre

Rodolfo M. Raya ([rmraya@maxprograms.com](mailto:rmraya@maxprograms.com)), Maxprograms

Yves Savourel ([ysavourel@enlaso.com](mailto:ysavourel@enlaso.com)), ENLASO Corporation

Additional artifacts:

This prose specification is one component of a Work Product that also includes:

XML schemas accessible from <http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/os/schemas/>

Related Work:

This specification replaces or supersedes:

*XLIFF Version 1.2*, 1 February 2008. OASIS Standard. <http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/v1.2/os/xliff-core.html>

Declared XML Namespaces:

urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:document:2.0

**ISO 21720:2017(E)**

- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:matches:2.0
- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:glossary:2.0
- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:fs:2.0
- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:metadata:2.0
- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:resourcedata:2.0
- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:changetracking:2.0
- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:sizerestriction:2.0
- urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:validation:2.0

**Abstract:**

This document defines version 2.0 of the XML Localisation Interchange File Format (XLIFF). The purpose of this vocabulary is to store localizable data and carry it from one step of the localization process to the other, while allowing interoperability between and among tools.

**Status:**

This document was last revised or approved by the membership of OASIS on the above date. The level of approval is also listed above. Check the "Latest version" location noted above for possible later revisions of this document.

Technical Committee members should send comments on this specification to the Technical Committee's email list. Others should send comments to the Technical Committee by using the "[Send A Comment](#)" button on the Technical Committee's web page at <http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/xliff/>.

For information on whether any patents have been disclosed that may be essential to implementing this specification, and any offers of patent licensing terms, please refer to the Intellectual Property Rights section of the Technical Committee web page (<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/xliff/ipr.php>).

SIST ISO 21720:2018

**Citation format:**

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>

When referencing this specification the following citation format should be used:

[XLIFF-2.0]

*XLIFF Version 2.0*. Edited by Tom Comerford, David Filip, Rodolfo M. Raya, and Yves Savourel. 05 August 2014. OASIS Standard. <http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/os/xliff-core-v2.0-os.html>. Latest version: <http://docs.oasis-open.org/xliff/xliff-core/v2.0/xliff-core-v2.0.html>.

**Notices**

Copyright © OASIS Open 2014. All Rights Reserved.

All capitalized terms in the following text have the meanings assigned to them in the OASIS Intellectual Property Rights Policy (the "OASIS IPR Policy"). The full [Policy](#) may be found at the OASIS website.

This document and translations of it may be copied and furnished to others, and derivative works that comment on or otherwise explain it or assist in its implementation may be prepared, copied, published, and distributed, in whole or in part, without restriction of any kind, provided that the above copyright notice and this section are included on all such copies and derivative works. However, this document itself may not be modified in any way, including by removing the copyright notice or references to OASIS, except as needed for



the purpose of developing any document or deliverable produced by an OASIS Technical Committee (in which case the rules applicable to copyrights, as set forth in the OASIS IPR Policy, must be followed) or as required to translate it into languages other than English.

The limited permissions granted above are perpetual and will not be revoked by OASIS or its successors or assigns.

This document and the information contained herein is provided on an "AS IS" basis and OASIS DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY THAT THE USE OF THE INFORMATION HEREIN WILL NOT INFRINGE ANY OWNERSHIP RIGHTS OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

OASIS requests that any OASIS Party or any other party that believes it has patent claims that would necessarily be infringed by implementations of this OASIS Committee Specification or OASIS Standard, to notify OASIS TC Administrator and provide an indication of its willingness to grant patent licenses to such patent claims in a manner consistent with the IPR Mode of the OASIS Technical Committee that produced this specification.

OASIS invites any party to contact the OASIS TC Administrator if it is aware of a claim of ownership of any patent claims that would necessarily be infringed by implementations of this specification by a patent holder that is not willing to provide a license to such patent claims in a manner consistent with the IPR Mode of the OASIS Technical Committee that produced this specification. OASIS may include such claims on its website, but disclaims any obligation to do so.

OASIS takes no position regarding the validity or scope of any intellectual property or other rights that might be claimed to pertain to the implementation or use of the technology described in this document or the extent to which any license under such rights might or might not be available; neither does it represent that it has made any effort to identify any such rights. Information on OASIS' procedures with respect to rights in any document or deliverable produced by an OASIS Technical Committee can be found on the OASIS website. Copies of claims of rights made available for publication and any assurances of licenses to be made available, or the result of an attempt made to obtain a general license or permission for the use of such proprietary rights by implementers or users of this OASIS Committee Specification or OASIS Standard, can be obtained from the OASIS TC Administrator. OASIS makes no representation that any information or list of intellectual property rights will at any time be complete, or that any claims in such list are, in fact, Essential Claims.

The name "OASIS" is a trademark of [OASIS](http://www.oasis-open.org), the owner and developer of this specification, and should be used only to refer to the organization and its official outputs. OASIS welcomes reference to, and implementation and use of, specifications, while reserving the right to enforce its marks against misleading uses. Please see <http://www.oasis-open.org/policies-guidelines/trademark> for above guidance.

# Table of Contents

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Terminology

#### 1.1.1 Key words

#### 1.1.2 Definitions

#### 1.1.3 Key concepts

### 1.2 Normative References

### 1.3 Non-Normative References

## 2 Conformance

## 3 Fragment Identification

### 3.1 Selectors for Core Elements

### 3.2 Selectors for Modules and Extensions

### 3.3 Relative References

### 3.4 Examples

## 4 The Core Specification

### 4.1 General Processing Requirements

### 4.2 Elements

#### 4.2.1 Tree Structure

#### 4.2.2 Structural Elements

#### 4.2.3 Inline Elements

### 4.3 Attributes

#### 4.3.1 XLIFF Attributes

#### 4.3.2 XML namespace

### 4.4 CDATA sections

### 4.5 XML Comments

### 4.6 XML Processing Instructions

### 4.7 Inline Content

#### 4.7.1 Text

#### 4.7.2 Inline Codes

#### 4.7.3 Annotations

#### 4.7.4 Sub-Flows

#### 4.7.5 White Spaces

#### 4.7.6 Bidirectional Text

#### 4.7.7 Target Content Modification

#### 4.7.8 Content Comparison

### 4.8 Segmentation

#### 4.8.1 Segments Representation

#### 4.8.2 Segments Order

#### 4.8.3 Segmentation Modification

### 4.9 Extension Mechanisms

#### 4.9.1 Extension Points

#### 4.9.2 Constraints

#### 4.9.3 Processing Requirements

## 5 The Modules Specifications

### 5.1 Translation Candidates Module

#### 5.1.1 Introduction

#### 5.1.2 Module Namespace

#### 5.1.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix

#### 5.1.4 Translation Candidate Annotation

#### 5.1.5 Module Elements

#### 5.1.6 Module Attributes

#### 5.1.7 Example:

#### 5.1.8 XML Schema

### 5.2 Glossary Module

**STANDARD PREVIEW**  
(standards.itech.ai)

SIST ISO 21720:2018

<https://standards.itech.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>

<a href="#">5.2.1 Introduction</a>
<a href="#">5.2.2 Module Namespace</a>
<a href="#">5.2.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix</a>
<a href="#">5.2.4 Module Elements</a>
<a href="#">5.2.5 Module Attributes</a>
<a href="#">5.2.6 Example:</a>
<a href="#">5.2.7 XML Schema</a>
<a href="#">5.3 Format Style Module</a>
<a href="#">5.3.1 Introduction</a>
<a href="#">5.3.2 Module Namespace</a>
<a href="#">5.3.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix</a>
<a href="#">5.3.4 Module Specification</a>
<a href="#">5.3.5 Module Attributes</a>
<a href="#">5.3.6 XML Schema</a>
<a href="#">5.4 Metadata Module</a>
<a href="#">5.4.1 Introduction</a>
<a href="#">5.4.2 Module Namespace</a>
<a href="#">5.4.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix</a>
<a href="#">5.4.4 Module Elements</a>
<a href="#">5.4.5 Module Attributes</a>
<a href="#">5.4.6 XML Schema</a>
<a href="#">5.5 Resource Data Module</a>
<a href="#">5.5.1 Introduction</a>
<a href="#">5.5.2 Module Namespace</a>
<a href="#">5.5.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix</a>
<a href="#">5.5.4 Module Elements</a>
<a href="#">5.5.5 Module Attributes</a>
<a href="#">5.5.6 Examples:</a>
<a href="#">5.5.7 XML Schema</a>
<a href="#">5.6 Change Tracking Module</a>
<a href="#">5.6.1 Introduction</a>
<a href="#">5.6.2 Module Namespace</a>
<a href="#">5.6.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix</a>
<a href="#">5.6.4 Module Elements</a>
<a href="#">5.6.5 Module Attributes</a>
<a href="#">5.6.6 Example:</a>
<a href="#">5.6.7 XML Schema</a>
<a href="#">5.7 Size and Length Restriction Module</a>
<a href="#">5.7.1 Introduction</a>
<a href="#">5.7.2 Module Namespace</a>
<a href="#">5.7.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix</a>
<a href="#">5.7.4 Module Elements</a>
<a href="#">5.7.5 Module Attributes</a>
<a href="#">5.7.6 Standard profiles</a>
<a href="#">5.7.7 Third party profiles</a>
<a href="#">5.7.8 Conformance</a>
<a href="#">5.7.9 Example</a>
<a href="#">5.7.10 XML Schema</a>
<a href="#">5.8 Validation Module</a>
<a href="#">5.8.1 Introduction</a>
<a href="#">5.8.2 Module Namespace</a>
<a href="#">5.8.3 Module Fragment Identification Prefix</a>
<a href="#">5.8.4 Module Elements</a>
<a href="#">5.8.5 Module Attributes</a>
<a href="#">5.8.6 XML Schema</a>

STANDARD PREVIEW  
(standards.iteh.ai)

SIST ISO 21720:2018

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>

## Appendixes

### [A XML Schemas and Catalog Listings \(Informative\)](#)

## ISO 21720:2017(E)

[A.1 XML Schemas Tree](#)

[A.2 XML Catalog](#)

[A.3 Core XML Schema](#)

[A.4 Support Schemas](#)

[B Specification Change Tracking \(Informative\)](#)

[B.1 Tracking of changes made in response to Public Reviews](#)

[B.1.1 Tracking of changes in response to the Candidate OASIS Standard Public Review](#)

[B.1.2 Tracking of changes in response to the 3rd Public Review](#)

[B.1.3 Tracking of changes in response to the 2nd Public Review](#)

[B.1.4 Tracking of changes in response to the 1st Public Review](#)

[C Acknowledgements \(Informative\)](#)

---

# iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)

[SIST ISO 21720:2018](#)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>

# 1 Introduction

XLIFF is the *XML Localisation Interchange File Format* designed by a group of multilingual content publishers, software providers, localization service providers, localization tools providers and researchers. It is intended to give any multilingual content owner a single interchange file format that can be understood by any localization provider, using any conformant localization tool. While the primary focus is on being a lossless interchange format, usage of XLIFF as a processing format is neither encouraged nor discouraged or prohibited.

*All text is normative unless otherwise labeled.* The following common methods are used for labeling portions of this specification as informative and hence non-normative:

Appendices and sections marked as "(Informative)" or "Non-Normative" in title,  
 Notes (sections with the "Note" title),  
 Warnings (sections with the "Warning" title),  
 Examples (mainly example code listings but also any inline examples or illustrative exemplary lists in otherwise normative text),  
 Schema and other artifacts listings (the corresponding artifacts are normative, not their listings).

## 1.1 Terminology

### 1.1.1 Key words

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW

The key words MUST, MUST NOT, REQUIRED, SHALL, SHALL NOT, SHOULD, SHOULD NOT, RECOMMENDED, MAY, and OPTIONAL are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119](#).

### 1.1.2 Definitions

[SIST ISO 21720:2018  
 https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018)

Agent

any application or tool that generates (creates), reads, edits, writes, processes, stores, renders or otherwise handles *XLIFF Documents*.

*Agent* is the most general application conformance target that subsumes all other specialized user agents disregarding whether they are defined in this specification or not.

Enrich, Enriching

the process of associating module and extension based metadata and resources with the *Extracted* XLIFF payload

*Processing Requirements*

- *Enriching* MAY happen at the time of *Extraction*.

### Note

*Extractor* knowledge of the native format is not assumed while *Enriching*.

Enricher, Enricher Agent

**ISO 21720:2017(E)**

any *Agent* that performs the *Enriching* process

Extract, Extraction

the process of encoding localizable content from a native content or User Interface format as XLIFF payload, so that localizable parts of the content in the source language are available for *Translation* into the target language along with the necessary context information

Extractor, Extractor Agent

any *Agent* that performs the *Extraction* process

Merge, Merging

the process of importing XLIFF payload back to the originating native format, based on the *full knowledge* of the *Extraction* mechanism, so that the localized content or User Interface strings replace the source language in the native format

Merger, Merger Agent

an *Agent* that performs the *Merge* process

**Warning**

Unless specified otherwise, any *Merger* is deemed to have the same knowledge of the native format as the *Extractor* throughout the specification.

*Mergers* independent of *Extractors* can succeed, but it is out of scope of this specification to specify interoperability for *Merging* back without the full *Extractor* knowledge of the native format.

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf14f01001/sist-iso-21720-2018>

Modify, Modification

the process of changing core and module XLIFF structural and inline elements that were previously created by other *Writers*

*Processing Requirements*

- XLIFF elements MAY be *Modified* and *Enriched* at the same time.

**Note**

*Extractor* or *Enricher* knowledge of the native format is not assumed while *Modifying*.

Modifier, Modifier Agent

an *Agent* that performs the *Modification* process

Translation, Translate

a rendering of the meaning of the source text, expressed in the target language

Writer, Writer Agent

an *Agent* that creates, generates, or otherwise writes an *XLIFF Document* for whatever purpose, including but not limited to *Extractor*, *Modifier*, and *Enricher Agents*.

## Note

Since XLIFF is intended as an exchange format rather than a processing format, many applications will need to generate *XLIFF Documents* from their internal processing formats, even in cases when they are processing *XLIFF Documents* created by another *Extractor*.

### 1.1.3 Key concepts

#### XLIFF Core

The core of XLIFF 2.0 consists of the minimum set of XML elements and attributes required to (a) prepare a document that contains text extracted from one or more files for localization, (b) allow it to be completed with the translation of the extracted text, and (c) allow the generation of *Translated* versions of the original document.

The XML namespace that corresponds to the core subset of XLIFF 2.0 is "urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:document:2.0".

#### XLIFF-defined (elements and attributes)

The following is the list of allowed schema URN prefixes for *XLIFF-defined* elements and attributes:

urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:

However, the following namespaces are NOT considered *XLIFF-defined* for the purposes of the XLIFF 2.0 specification:

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/0d197fb8-1501-4638-a503-88bf1401001/sist-iso-21720-2018>  
 urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:document:1.0  
 urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:document:1.1  
 urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:document:1.2

Elements and attributes from other namespaces are not *XLIFF-defined*.

#### XLIFF Document

Any XML document that declares the namespace

"urn:oasis:names:tc:xliff:document:2.0" as its main namespace, has `<xliff>` as the root element and complies with the XML Schemas and the declared Constraints that are part of this specification.

#### XLIFF Module

A module is an OPTIONAL set of XML elements and attributes that stores information about a process applied to an *XLIFF Document* and the data incorporated into the document as result of that process.

Each official module defined for XLIFF 2.0 has its grammar defined in an independent XML Schema with a separate namespace.

## 1.2 Normative References