



SLOVENSKI STANDARD SIST ISO 26162-1:2021

01-marec-2021

Nadomešča:
SIST ISO 26162:2013

Upravljanje terminoloških virov - Terminološke baze podatkov - 1. del: Zasnova

Management of terminology resources -- Terminology databases -- Part 1: Design

Systemes de gestion de la terminologie, de la connaissance et du contenu -- Bases de données terminologiques -- Partie 1: Conception

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: **ISO 26162-1:2019**

ICS:

01.020	Terminologija (načela in koordinacija)	Terminology (principles and coordination)
35.240.30	Uporabniške rešitve IT v informatiki, dokumentiranju in založništvu	IT applications in information, documentation and publishing

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INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD

ISO
26162-1

First edition
2019-11

**Management of terminology
resources — Terminology
databases —**

**Part 1:
Design**

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*Gestion des ressources terminologiques — Bases de données
terminologiques —*
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Partie 1: Conception

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Reference number
ISO 26162-1:2019(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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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.

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).

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).

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

For an explanation of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and terminology*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Management of terminology resources*.

This first edition of ISO 26162-1, together with ISO 26162-2, cancels and replaces ISO 26162:2012, which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- the document has been split into parts. The first part is focusing on the design of terminology database design, the second part on the development of terminology management systems;
- all references to generic software design principles and specific use cases have been removed.

A list of all parts of the ISO 26162 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Terminologies are the totality of concepts in given subject fields represented by terms and other designations and described by using additional terminological data. In general, these data are organized in structured terminology databases and are usually manipulated in specific software applications called terminology management systems. Terminology databases usually vary with regard to their underlying data models and consist of different sets of data categories, while terminology management systems generally differ depending on their functionality and the platform they are designed for.

The ISO 26162 series gives guidance on designing terminology databases and on essential terminology management system features. The series can also be used to evaluate the conformance and suitability of terminology databases and terminology management systems.

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Management of terminology resources — Terminology databases —

Part 1: Design

1 Scope

This document specifies general, i.e. implementation- and use-case-independent terminology database design principles to enable maximum efficiency and quality in terminology work. Thus, this document supports creating, processing, and using high quality terminology. The intended audiences of this document are terminologists, translators, interpreters, technical communicators, language planners, subject field experts, and terminology management system developers.

This document describes a maximum approach, i.e. terminology database design for distributed, multilingual terminology management. It can also be used for designing smaller solutions.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 704, *Terminology work — Principles and methods*
https://standards.iso.org/standards/std/0ae16017-cf2b-4b99-b5c3-1f56bf05617/sist-iso-26162-1-2021

ISO 1087, *Terminology work — Vocabulary*

ISO 12620, *Management of terminology resources — Data category specifications*

ISO 16642:2017, *Computer applications in terminology — Terminological markup framework*

ISO 23185, *Assessment and benchmarking of terminological resources — General concepts, principles and requirements*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 1087 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 Concepts

3.1.1

object

anything perceivable or conceivable

Note 1 to entry: Objects can be material (e.g. an engine, a sheet of paper, a diamond), immaterial (e.g. a conversion ratio, a project plan) or imagined (e.g. a unicorn, a scientific hypothesis).

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Note 2 to entry: Objects can undergo changes which cause conceptual or designation change.

[SOURCE: ISO 1087:2019, 3.1.1, modified — Note 2 to entry added.]

3.1.2**concept**

unit of knowledge created by a unique combination of characteristics

Note 1 to entry: Concepts are not necessarily bound to particular natural languages. They are, however, influenced by the social or cultural background which often leads to different categorizations.

Note 2 to entry: Due to their dynamic nature, concepts are also defined as units of thinking (see ISO 704:2009, 5.1 and DIN 2342:2011-08, 4.1).

[SOURCE: ISO 1087:2019, 3.2.7, modified — former Note 2 to entry removed and replaced by a new Note 2 to entry.]

3.1.3**designation**

designator

representation of a *concept* (3.1.2) by a sign which denotes it in a domain or subject

Note 1 to entry: A designation can be linguistic or non-linguistic. It can consist of various types of characters, but also punctuation marks such as hyphens and parentheses, governed by domain-, subject-, or language-specific conventions.

Note 2 to entry: A designation may be a *term* (3.1.4) including appellations, a proper name, or a symbol.

[SOURCE: ISO 1087:2019, 3.4.1]

3.1.4**term**

designation (3.1.3) that represents a general concept by linguistic means

EXAMPLE "laser printer", "planet", "pacemaker", "chemical compound", "¾ time", "Influenza A virus", "oil painting".

Note 1 to entry: Terms may be partly or wholly verbal.

[SOURCE: ISO 1087:2019, 3.4.2]

3.2 Terminology databases**3.2.1****terminology database**

termbase

database comprising a *terminological data collection* (3.2.4)

[SOURCE: ISO 30042:2019, 3.28, modified — admitted term "terminology database" made preferred term and preferred term "termbase" made admitted term.]

3.2.2**data model**

graphical and/or lexical representation of data, specifying their properties, structure, and inter-relationships

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 11179-1:2015, 3.2.7]

3.2.3**terminological metamodel**

data model (3.2.2) that describes the basis for designing and implementing *terminological data collections* (3.2.4)

3.2.4 terminological data collection

TDC

resource consisting of *concept entries* (3.2.7) with associated metadata and documentary information

[SOURCE: ISO 16642:2017, 3.21, modified — "terminological entries" replaced by "concept entries".]

3.2.5 global information

GI

technical and administrative information applying to the entire *terminological data collection* (3.2.4)

EXAMPLE The title of the terminological data collection, revision history, owner or copyright information.

[SOURCE: ISO 16642:2017, 3.11, modified — "Note 1 to entry" replaced by "EXAMPLE"; "For example," removed in the example.]

3.2.6 complementary information

CI

information supplementary to that described in *concept entries* (3.2.7) and shared across the *terminological data collection* (3.2.4)

EXAMPLE Domain hierarchies, institution descriptions, bibliographic references, and references to text corpora.

[SOURCE: ISO 16642:2017, 3.2, modified — "terminological entries" replaced by "concept entries" within definition; "Note 1 to entry" replaced by "EXAMPLE"; "are typical examples of complementary information" removed in the example.]

3.2.7 concept entry

CE

terminological entry

part of a *terminological data collection* (3.2.4) which contains the terminological data related to one *concept* (3.1.2)

[SOURCE: ISO 16642:2017, 3.22, modified — "concept entry" and acronym "CE" added as preferred terms; preferred term "terminological entry" made admitted term; preferred term "TE" removed; Note 1 to entry removed.]

3.2.8 language section

LS

part of a *concept entry* (3.2.7) containing information related to one language

[SOURCE: ISO 16642:2017, 3.13, modified — "terminological entry" replaced by "concept entry"; Note 1 to entry removed.]

3.2.9 term section

TS

part of a *language section* (3.2.8) containing information about a *term* (3.1.4)

[SOURCE: ISO 16642:2017, 3.20, modified — "giving" replaced by "containing".]

3.2.10 term component section

TCS

part of a *term section* (3.2.9) containing linguistic information about the components of a *term* (3.1.4)

[SOURCE: ISO 16642:2017, 3.19, modified — "giving" replaced by "containing".]