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Information technology — Destruction of data carriers —

Part 3: Process of destruction of data carriers

Technologies de l'information — Destruction de véhicules de données —

Partie 3: Processus de destruction des supports de données

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by DIN, German Institute for Standardization (as national standard DIN 66399-3) and drafted in accordance with its editorial rules. It was assigned to Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, and adopted under the "fast-track procedure".

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 21964 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

Everybody, who processes confidential, personal and/or sensitive data, for themselves or on behalf of others, is obliged to ensure an adequate and secure disposal and destruction of data carrier.

Secure destruction means in this regard, that the data carriers, on which the information in need of protection is represented, are destroyed in a way, that the reproduction of the represented information are either impossible or most widely aggravated (ISO/IEC 21964-1 and ISO/IEC 21964-2).

Not just the secure destruction itself should be noted, but also the whole process from the point of origin through to the environmentally friendly recycling/disposal in accordance with laws and regulations currently in force.

Information technology — Destruction of data carriers —

Part 3:
Process of destruction of data carriers

1 Scope

This standard defines the requirements for the process of destruction of data carriers and is applicable for the responsible authority and for all parties who are involved in the destruction process.

2 Normative references

The following quoted documents are required for the application of this document. For dated references only the referred version is valid. For undated references, the last issued version is valid (including all changes).

ISO/IEC 21964-1, *Information Technology — Destruction of data carriers — Part 1: Principles and Definitions*

ISO/IEC 21964-2, *Information Technology — Destruction of data carriers — Part 2: Requirements for equipment for destruction of data carriers*

3 Processing

3.1 General

The destruction of data carriers has to be understood as a process, in which every single process step has to be examined and designed to be secure. The responsible authority is responsible for the whole process (internal and/or external) up to the final destruction of the data carrier. The process of data carrier destruction ends as soon as the agreed security level is reached.

Usually the process involves different parties from the collection point to the environmentally friendly destruction. If service providers are involved in the process, the delimitation of responsibilities between the data controller and the service provider has to be agreed clearly. Due to legal provisions there are mainly technical and organizational measures to be taken for this process.

The depiction in Figure 1 shows the varieties of the process contained in this standard including the related process steps.

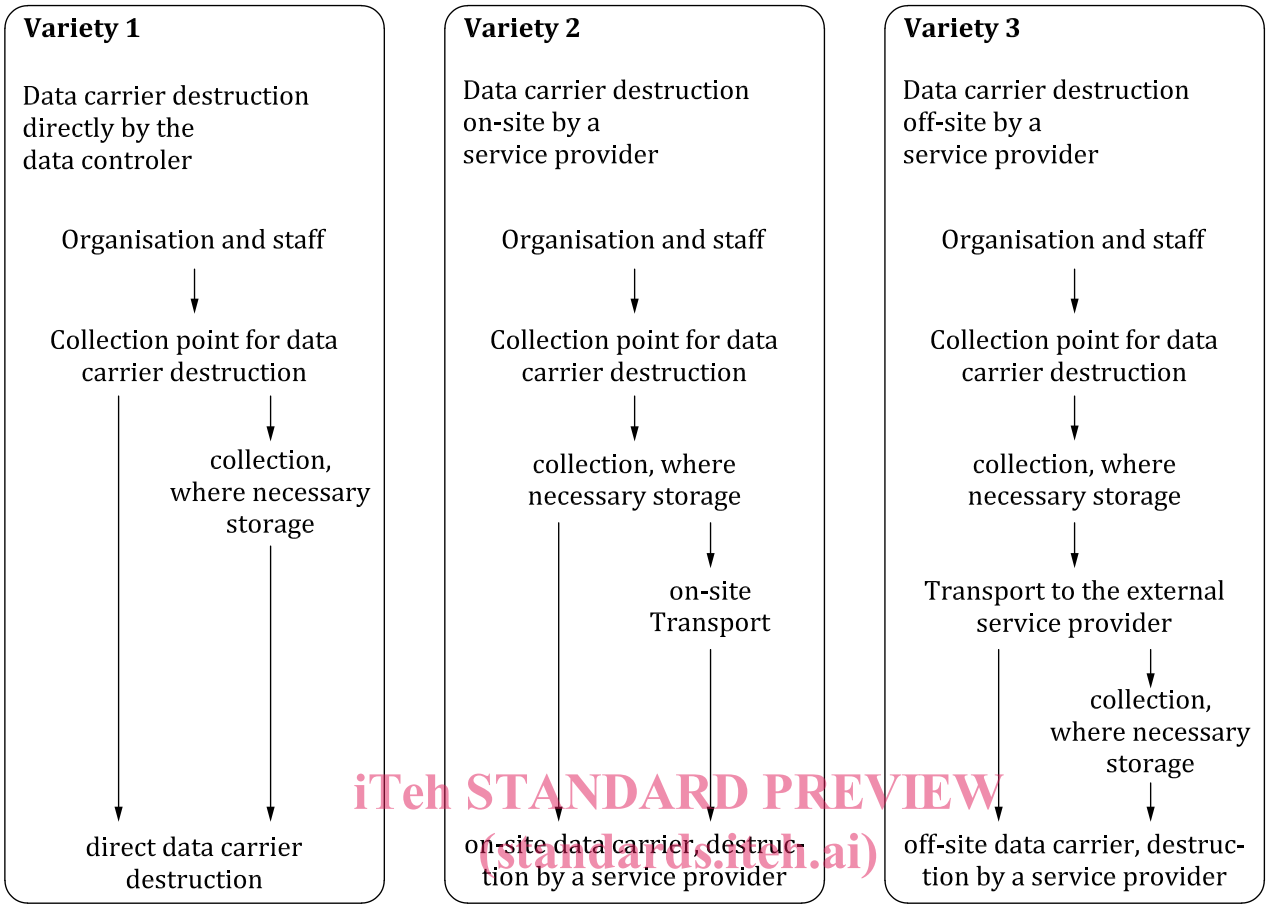

Figure 1 — Data carrier destruction

3.2 Process definition

The identified technical and organizational measures, resulting from a risk analysis, shall ensure the protection requirements by considering the state-of-the-art of restoration technologies. These protection requirements shall be adequate for the risks that may emerge by the destruction process itself, and the kind of data to protect.

To protect data from misuse, it requires a security- and control system, which ensures a reliable quality of the destruction process either on-site at the data controller or off-site at a service provider. The protective purpose is the prevention of data abuse. Taking into account economical and adequacy considerations, the data carriers intended to be destroyed, should be separated into protection classes (see ISO/IEC 21964-1, Protection classes 1 to 3).

If there are data carriers which require different security levels, it is recommended to separate them according to the different security levels at the collection point for economic and ecological reasons.

3.3 Determination of the risk structure

Data has to be categorized to its sensitivity according to ISO/IEC 21964-1.

In principle an impairment of the basic functionality of data carrier should take place in the early process steps of the destruction process.

For electronic and magnetic data carriers, it is recommended to erase or overwrite them prior to the destruction. This reduces the attraction of stealing and it originates a basic security for the subsequent process steps. Considering the protection requirement a lower security level can then be chosen. If an

impairment of the basic functionality resp. erasing/overwriting is not possible, the necessary security level of the chosen protection class shall apply.

When using one of the process varieties, it needs to be verified in advance, whether the technical and organizational requirements of the corresponding protection class and security levels are met.

The data controller defines the protection requirements and the protection class. Therefore the following questions shall be answered:

— Which information is worth being protected and categorized in which protection class	What?
— Destruction according to which security level	How?
— Destruction by the data controller directly or by an external service provider	Who?
— Destruction on-site or off-site by an external	Where
— service provider	
— Technical and organizational measures at the collection point, during transport and at the service provider	How?

The result determines the operational processing (security concept).

3.4 Process execution

A prerequisite for the proper execution of the process is a detailed organization in which the process is documented, the responsibilities defined, the legal and operational framework conditions specified and the requirements for the personnel employed in the process defined.

The process shall be designed in such a way that, after the decision of the data controller to destroy the data carrier, no unauthorized persons obtain knowledge of the data, taking into account the protection requirement. According to the local terms and conditions and the protection requirements, the conditions for the collection, storage, transportation and destruction of data carriers shall be determined.

If data carriers are transported, they have to be protected against unauthorized access. Beyond the usage of secured containers and vehicles, particular measures during transfer and storage are to be considered according to the protection requirements (see Clause 4).

3.5 Inspection and testing

3.5.1 Requirements to the data controller

The data controller shall design and verify the whole destruction process under consideration of legal and operational requirements to ensure a proper destruction.

The data controller has to convince itself of the process reliability of the service provider, before the contract is awarded, and to verify this regularly.

3.5.2 Process reliability

The processing and the process steps within the responsibility of the service provider shall be recorded in written form by the service provider.

The documentation of the processing shall be provided to the data controller.

In an audit, the processing and the process steps, shall be checked and confirmed against the requirements of this standard and if applicable against other agreements.