
**Robots for industrial environments —
Automatic end effector exchange
systems — Vocabulary**

*Robots manipulateurs industriels — Systèmes de changement
automatique de terminal — Vocabulaire*

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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 299, *Robotics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 11593:1996), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- references, terminology and drawings have been updated;
- the Scope and the Introduction have been updated;
- reference documents have been moved from the Normative references clause to the Bibliography;
- the document has been restructured and Annex A has been removed.

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

This document is one of a family of standards dealing with the requirements of components of robot systems for industrial environments.

This document contains the vocabulary for end-effector exchange systems. This document does not contain any details for the development and design of these systems.

For the terms related to coupling and releasing forces (see 3.4), all permissible maximum values for the load characteristics are valid for the sum of both static and dynamic loads and all load characteristics are stated for the reference plane.

For the terms related to magazine interfaces of the tool-mounted part (see 3.7), the performance criteria should be used in the same sense as those used in the terms related to the external shape and main dimensions of the exchange system (see 3.2). The defined coordinate system is still valid even if the direction of insert movement into the magazine is different from the coupling direction at the exchange of the tool. They differ in their value and their direction as well as in the force of coupling work which is required to assemble or release the tool part from the robot part of the interface.

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Robots for industrial environments — Automatic end effector exchange systems — Vocabulary

1 Scope

This document defines terms relevant to automatic end-effector exchange systems used as a part of robot systems in accordance with ISO 10218-2.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

3.1 General terms and definitions

3.1.1

automatic end-effector exchange system

coupling device between the mechanical interface and the end-effector enabling automatic exchange of end-effectors, made up of a *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) and one or more *tool-mounted parts* (3.1.3)

Note 1 to entry: Also referred to as tool changer, quick-change device, automatic tool changer, robotic tool changer or robot coupler.

3.1.2

robot-mounted part

part of an *automatic end-effector exchange system* (3.1.1) that is attached to the mechanical interface of a manipulator

Note 1 to entry: Also referred to as master or robot side.

3.1.3

tool-mounted part

part of an *automatic end-effector exchange system* (3.1.1) that is attached to the end-effector

Note 1 to entry: Also referred to as slave or tool side.

3.1.4

couple, verb

join the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) to the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3)

3.1.5

uncouple, verb

release the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3) from the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2)

3.1.6

lock, verb

actuate the locking elements to secure the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3) to the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2)

3.1.7

unlock, verb

actuate the locking elements to allow the uncoupling of the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) from the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3)

3.1.8

dock, verb

couple (3.1.4) and *lock* (3.1.6) the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) to the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3) when the tool-mounted part is held in the *magazine* (3.1.10)

3.1.9

undock, verb

unlock (3.1.7) and *uncouple* (3.1.5) the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3) from the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) when the tool-mounted part is held in the *magazine* (3.1.10)

3.1.10

magazine

storage means of end-effectors that are *docked* (3.1.8) and *undocked* (3.1.9) from the associated *robot-mounted parts* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: Also referred to as tool stand, tool storage rack or nest.

3.1.11

interface for robot side and tool side

description and marking for robot part and tool part in accordance with ISO 9409-1:2004, Clause 6, and ISO 9409-2:2002, Clause 8

3.1.12

cable routing

position and dimension of routing and tracking of cable for robot part and tool part in one drawing

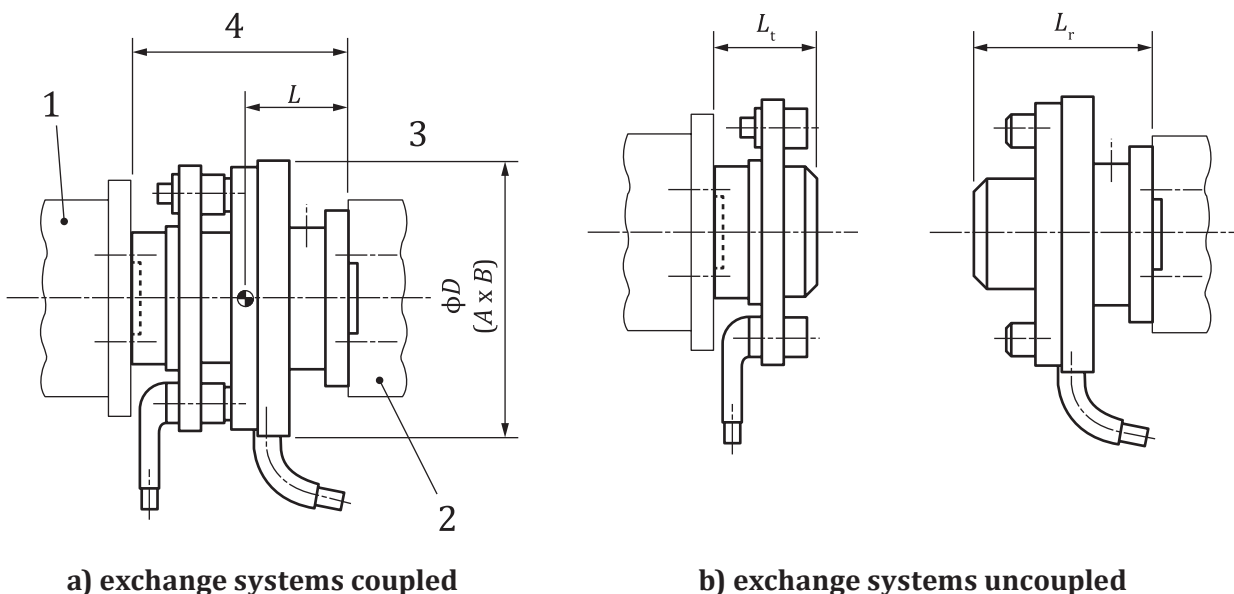
3.2 Terms related to the external shape and main dimensions of the exchange system

3.2.1

structural shape

overall dimensions of device comprising external diameter (or width), depth, length of the individual *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2), and length of the individual *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3)

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 1](#).



Key

1	tool-mounted part	D	external diameter (circular shape) (mm)
2	robot-mounted part	A	width (for other) (mm)
3	surface	B	depth (for other) (mm)
4	total length of the coupling (when coupled)	L	length from the robot mounting flange to the coupling flange (mm)
		L_r	length of the robot-mounted part (mm)
		L_t	length of the tool-mounted part (mm)

Figure 1 — External shape and main dimensions of the exchange system when coupled and uncoupled

3.2.2**face-to-face dimension**

distance measured from the robot interface to the tool interface

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 1](#) a), item 4.

Note 2 to entry: The tolerance of the coupling length of the robot part (L_{cr}) and the coupling length of the tool part (L_{ct}) has a significant effect on the pose accuracy of the complete system when using different tools. The length of the coupled system is calculated as $L_{total} \pm \Delta$.

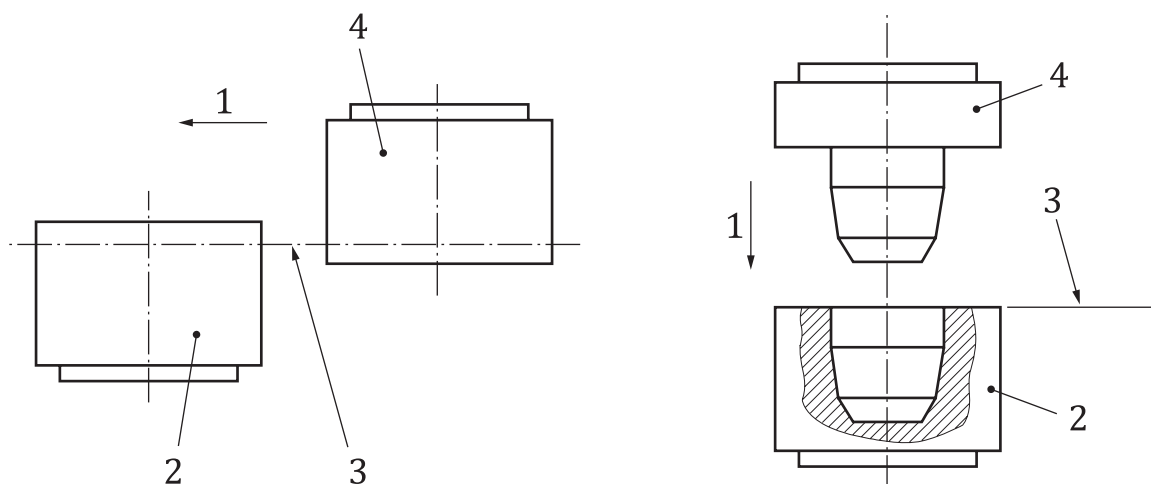
3.3 Terms related to positioning and orientation in coupling**3.3.1****coupling direction**

direction in which the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) and/or the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3) are moved to each other

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 2](#).

Note 2 to entry: Couplings may be either lateral or axial:

- lateral coupling direction [see [Figure 2](#) a)]: the motion of coupling runs parallel to the level of separation of the interface;
- axial coupling direction [see [Figure 2](#) b)]: the motion of coupling runs vertical to the level of separation of the interface.



a) Lateral positioning and orientation in coupling b) Axial positioning and orientation in coupling

Key

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | coupling direction | 3 | level of separation |
| 2 | tool-mounted part | 4 | robot-mounted part |

Figure 2 — Positioning and orientation in coupling

3.3.2 length of the approach distance

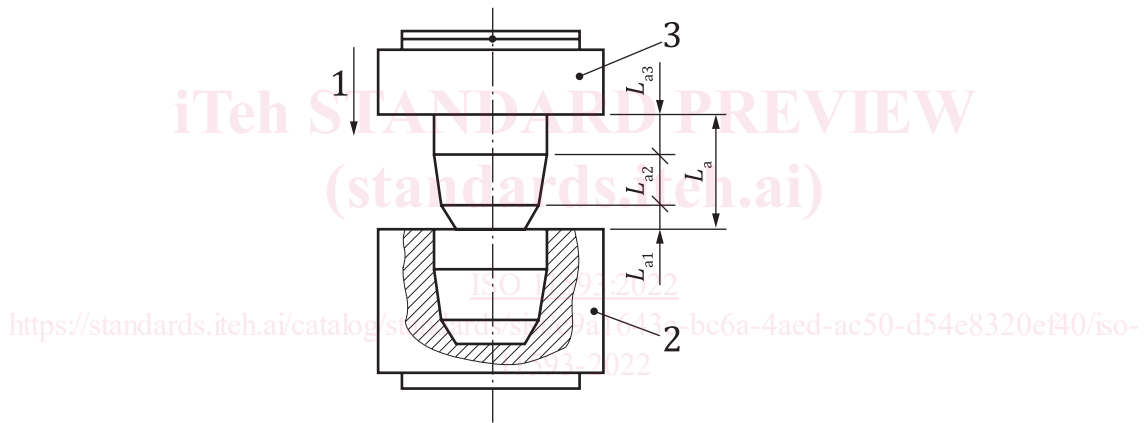
L_a
total distance of operation of the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) and/or the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3) in the *coupling direction* (3.3.1) until the complete coupling of both parts

Note 1 to entry: L_a is expressed in millimetres.

Note 2 to entry: $L_a = L_{a1} + L_{a2} + L_{a3}$

Note 3 to entry: For axial coupling direction, the approach distance runs vertical to the *reference plane* (3.6.7). On lateral coupling direction, it runs parallel to the reference plane.

Note 4 to entry: See [Figure 3](#).



Key

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|----------|---|
| 1 | coupling direction | L_a | length of the approach distance (mm) |
| 2 | tool-mounted part | L_{a1} | distance of operation for precentering (mm) |
| 3 | robot-mounted part | L_{a2} | distance of operation for centring (mm) |
| | | L_{a3} | distance of operation thereafter until the complete coupling (mm) |

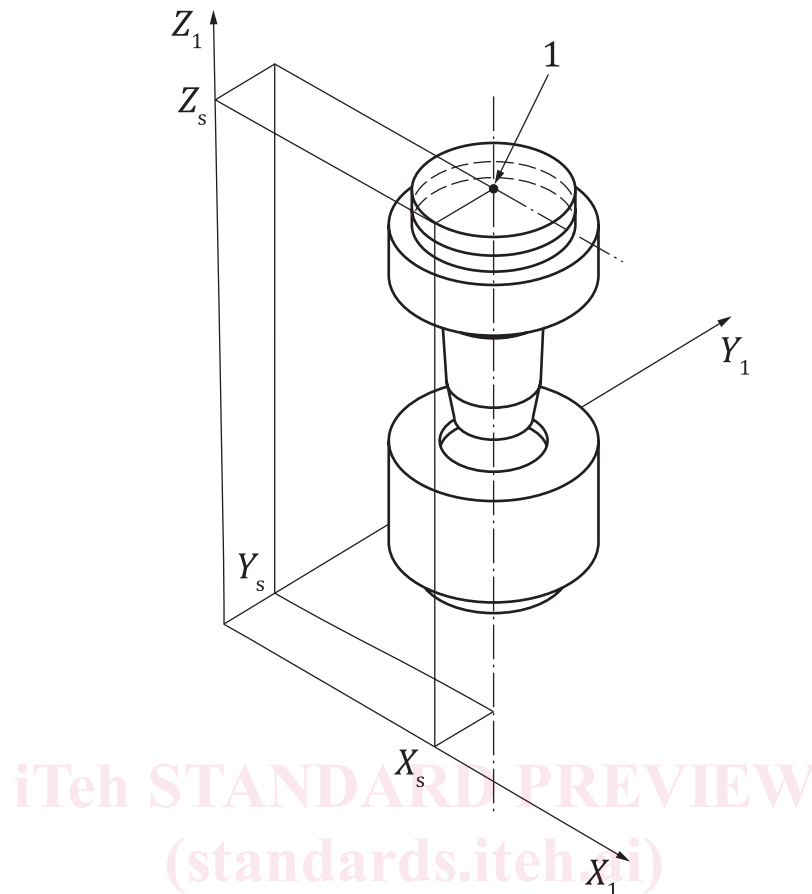
Figure 3 — Axial coupling direction

3.3.3 start position

location of the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) of the exchange device in relation to the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3) shortly before the coupling process begins

Note 1 to entry: The start position can be defined in the Cartesian coordinate system as (X_s, Y_s, Z_s) .

Note 2 to entry: See [Figure 4](#).

**Key**

- 1 start position (X_s, Y_s, Z_s)
 X_s start X axis coordinate
 Y_s start Y axis coordinate
 Z_s start Z axis coordinate

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 X_1 Cartesian coordinate X axis Y_1 Cartesian coordinate X axis Z_1 Cartesian coordinate X axis**Figure 4 — Demonstration of axial coupling direction****3.4 Terms related to coupling and releasing forces****3.4.1****coupling force** F_c

force to be applied by the robot in order to *couple* (3.1.4) the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) of the exchange system with the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3)

Note 1 to entry: F_c is expressed in Newtons.

Note 2 to entry: During this process, the tool-mounted part is considered to be held in the tool *magazine* (3.1.10). The coupling force includes all external forces required to couple all mechanical, electrical, hydraulic or pneumatic connectors.

3.4.2**releasing force** F_e

force to be applied by the robot in order to release the *robot-mounted part* (3.1.2) of the exchange system from the *tool-mounted part* (3.1.3)

Note 1 to entry: F_e is expressed in Newtons.