INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO/IEC 30113-61

First edition 2020-11

Information technology — Gesturebased interfaces across devices and methods —

Part 61:

Single-point gestures for screen readers

Technologies de l'information — Interfaces gestuelles entre dispositifs et méthodes —

Partie 61: Gestes n'utilisant qu'un seul point pour lecteurs d'écran

ISO/IEC 30113-61:2020

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 35, *User interfaces*.

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Introduction

Screen readers are regarded as a default method of accessing ICT devices for people with visual impairments who are unable to see and understand the screens of these devices. The content on the screens, such as letters, words, numbers, punctuation, elements and so on, are spoken out loud by screen readers. Speakers or headphones connected to the ICT device become the main output components.

Single-point gestures are used for screen readers of several commercially available ICT devices including smart phones, PCs and so on. Potential variety and inconsistency among the single-point gestures might cause a serious accessibility problem for people with visually impairments. There is a strong need for international standards to define the single-point gesture so that visually impaired users do not get confused while they use ICT devices.

The functions of the screen readers include reading an item under the user's finger, pausing/resuming speech, speaking the location of the user's fingers on a screen, such as page numbers or rows, and so on. This document presents descriptions of single-point gestures and the corresponding functions of the screen readers.

The standard single-point gestures will harmonize with multi-point gestures for the screen readers. It is expected that users can use the screen readers easily and without confusion by executing the standard single-point gestures. The gestures are performed by the users regardless of a specific recognition technique, a certain interaction method or a device.

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