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**Information technology — Extensible  
biometric data interchange formats —  
Part 16:  
Full body image data**

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Phone: +41 22 749 01 11  
Email: [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

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 document 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) or [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs)).

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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](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html). In the IEC, see [www.iec.ch/understanding-standards](http://www.iec.ch/understanding-standards).

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 37, *Biometrics*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 39794 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](http://www.iso.org/members.html) and [www.iec.ch/national-committees](http://www.iec.ch/national-committees).

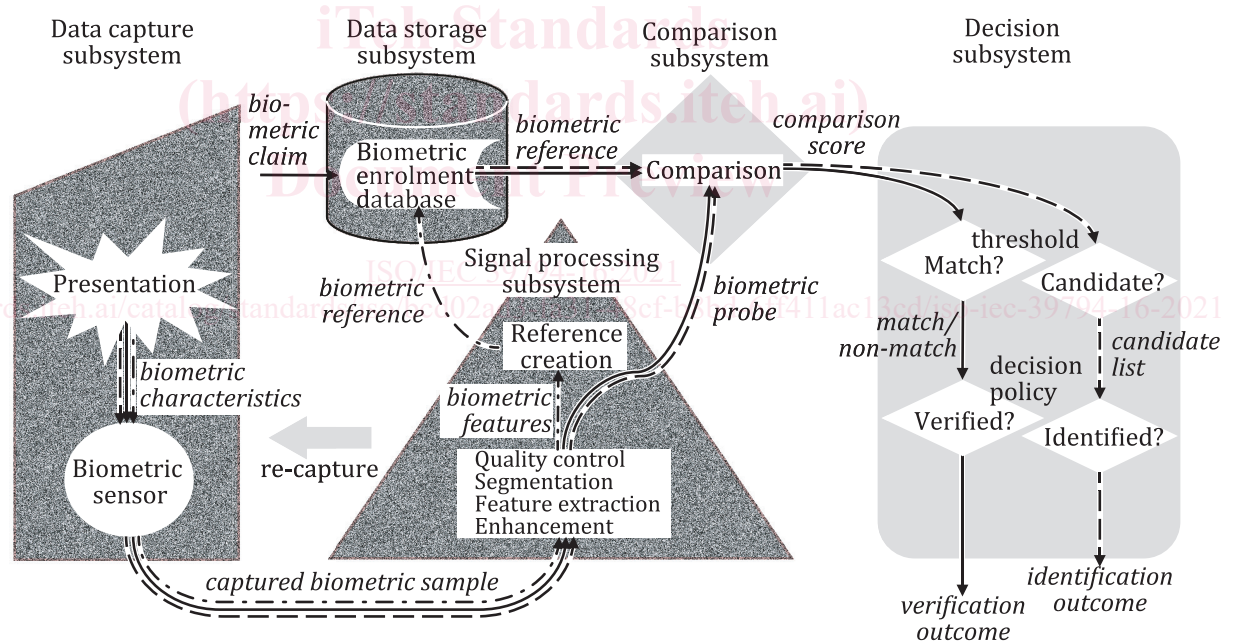
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## Introduction

Most countries around the world use biometric recognition systems for law enforcement and border control. Many of these systems are not limited to face recognition purposes. To be consistent in such deployments and processes, technical documents, guidelines and best practice recommendations are being developed by different groups. These documents are primarily focused on the issuance and use of identity documents and related border control systems, and the technical and operational issues to be considered when planning and deploying them. "Face" is the biometric mode most suited to the practicalities of travel documents and automated border processing. "Full body" is a biometric mode that can be used in addition to face (for example, in border-crossing watchlist scenarios, crime surveillance, etc.). Full body can also be used in forensic scenarios.

There is very little guidance covering full body imaging for cross-border or law enforcement biometric recognition purposes. There is a need for guidance for the use of high-quality digital cameras and video surveillance devices, as well as guidance on full body data interchange structure semantics, syntax and format for the collection and use of full body image data in biometric recognition scenarios. A specific extensible biometric data interchange format for cross-border interoperability is required for full body images. Full body image data standardization is required to ensure threshold quality for database images for identification and verification using video surveillance and other similar system-generated images.

[Figure 1](#) illustrates components of a full body image biometric system on a checkered background.



NOTE [Figure 1](#) shows the information flow within a general biometric system, showing a general biometric system consisting of data capture, signal processing, data storage, comparison and decision subsystems. Each of these subsystems are defined in ISO/IEC 39794-1 in more detail.

**Figure 1 — Components of a biometric system**

Border personnel, immigration officials and police officers take full body images using local practices where no international standards are available to outline the practices which enable cross-border interoperability. This document can therefore be helpful for the description of the full body biometric characteristics and associated non-biometric information for identification purposes in disaster victim and law enforcement scenarios (e.g. victim identification, unknown bodies and missing individuals).

To enable applications on a wide variety of devices, including devices that have limited data storage, and to improve biometric recognition accuracy, other parts of the ISO/IEC 39794 series address data format, scene constraints (lighting, pose, expression, etc.), photographic properties (positioning, camera focus, etc.), and digital image attributes (image resolution, image size, etc.).

In order to fully understand the requirements implied in this document, it is recommended that the user become acquainted with certain other documents:

- ISO 22311: this document specifies a common output file format that can be extracted from the video-surveillance contents collection systems to perform necessary processing.
- The ISO/IEC 30137 series: this series specifies the use of biometrics in video surveillance systems.
- EN 62676<sup>[22]</sup>: this document defines video surveillance systems for use in security applications.

This document (ISO/IEC 39794-16) is originally based on CEN/TS 17051.

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# Information technology — Extensible biometric data interchange formats —

## Part 16: Full body image data

### 1 Scope

This document is intended to provide a generic extensible full body image data format for biometric recognition applications requiring exchange of human full body image data. Typical applications are:

- a) automated body biometric verification and identification of an unknown individual or cadaver (one-to-one as well as one-to-many comparison);
- b) support for human verification of identity by comparison of individuals against full body images; and
- c) support for human examination of full body images with sufficient resolution to allow a human examiner to verify identity or identify a living individual or a cadaver.

This document ensures that full human body images and image sequence data generated by video surveillance and other similar systems are suitable for identification and verification.

The structure of the data format in this document is compatible with ISO/IEC 39794-5. In addition to the data format, this document specifies application-specific profiles including scene constraints, photographic properties and digital image attributes like image spatial sampling rate, image size, etc. These application profiles are contained in a series of annexes.

The 3D encoding types "3D point map" and "range image" are not supported by this document.

### 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/IEC 2382-37, *Information technology — Vocabulary — Part 37: Biometrics*

ISO/IEC 8824-1, *Information technology — Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) — Part 1: Specification of basic notation*

ISO/IEC 10918-1, *Information technology – Digital compression and coding of continuous-tone still images: Requirements and guidelines*

ISO 12052, *Health informatics — Digital imaging and communication in medicine (DICOM) including workflow and data management*

ISO 12233, *Photography — Electronic still picture imaging — Resolution and spatial frequency responses*

ISO/IEC 14496-2:2004, *Information technology — Coding of audio-visual objects — Part 2: Visual*

ISO/IEC 14496-10, *Information technology — Coding of audio-visual objects — Part 10: Advanced video coding*

ISO/IEC 14496-14, *Information technology — Coding of audio-visual objects — Part 14: MP4 file format*

ISO/IEC 15444-1, *Information technology — JPEG 2000 image coding system — Part 1: Core coding system*

ISO/IEC 15444-3, *Information technology — JPEG 2000 image coding system: Motion JPEG 2000 — Part 3*

ISO/IEC 15948, *Information technology — Computer graphics and image processing — Portable Network Graphics (PNG): Functional specification*

ISO/IEC 39794-1, *Information technology — Extensible biometric data interchange formats — Part 1: Framework*

ISO/IEC 39794-5, *Information technology — Extensible biometric data interchange formats — Part 5: Face image data*

ITU-T Rec. T.81, *Information technology — Digital compression and coding of continuous-tone still images — Requirements and guidelines*

ITU-T Rec. T.802, *Information technology — JPEG 2000 image coding system: Motion JPEG 2000*

XML Schema Part 1: Structures Second Edition, W3C Recommendation, 28 October 2004, <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/>

XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes Second Edition, W3C Recommendation, 28 October 2004, <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/>

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 39794-1 and ISO/IEC 2382-37 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/>

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#### 3.1 2D image

two-dimensional biometric capture *subject* (3.67) body representation that *encodes* (3.18) the luminance and/or colour variations of a biometric capture subject in a given lighting environment or a set of images recorded using required radiation bandwidths

#### 3.2

##### 3D shape

DEPRECATED 3D image

three-dimensional biometric capture *subject* (3.67) body representation that *encodes* (3.18) a surface or a volumetric shape in a 3D space

#### 3.3

##### 3D point map

3D point cloud representing a biometric capture *subject* (3.67), where each surface point is encoded with a triplet, representing the point as coordinate *values* (3.72) in a 3D *Cartesian coordinate system* (3.10) respectively

#### 3.4

##### 4K

UHDTV resolution of 3840 px × 2160 px to achieve a 16 × 9 aspect ratio

Note 1 to entry: UHDTV is an abbreviation for Ultra High Definition Television, defined in documents: SMPTE ST 2036-1 and Recommendation ITU-R BT.2020.

**3.5****anthropometric landmark**

landmark point on the biometric capture *subject* (3.67) representation used for identification and classification of humans

**3.6****artificial intelligence****AI**

discipline concerned with the building of computer systems that perform tasks requiring intelligence when performed by humans

**3.7****biometric feature vector**

one-dimensional *matrix* (3.48) representation of biometric features

Note 1 to entry: Feature *vector* (3.73) is a list of numbers taken from the output of a *neural network* (3.51) layer or other biometric process capable of creating a one-dimensional matrix representation of biometric features.

**3.8****cadaver**

dead body of a human

Note 1 to entry: The definition of "cadaver" does not include the dead body of an animal.

**3.9****camera to subject distance****CSD**

distance between the eyes or the body surface plane of a capture *subject* (3.67) and the sensor/image plane of the camera

Note 1 to entry: In *full body images* (3.32) body surface plane is used when eyes plane is not visible.

**3.10****Cartesian coordinate system**

3D orthogonal coordinate system

ISO/IEC 39794-16:2021

**3.11****CIE standard illuminant D65**

commonly used standard illuminant defined by the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) that is intended to represent average daylight and has a correlated colour temperature of approximately 6 500 K

Note 1 to entry: CIE standard illuminant D65 is specified in ISO/IEC 11664-2.

**3.12****colour image**

*continuous tone image* (3.15) that has more than one channel, each of which is coded with one or multiple bits

**3.13****colour space**

way of representing colours of pixels in an image

EXAMPLE RGB, YUV and LAB are colour spaces typically used in this document.

**3.14****common biometric exchange formats framework****CBEFF**

data format specifically for exchanging biometric data that provides for the encompassing of any biometric type into a standard format

### 3.15

#### **continuous-tone image**

image whose channels have more than one bit per pixel

Note 1 to entry: An image, such as a photograph, where the grey levels in the image are continuous and not discrete.

### 3.16

#### **Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine**

##### **DICOM**

standard for the communication and management of medical *imaging* (3.41) information and related data

Note 1 to entry: The DICOM Standard facilitates interoperability of medical imaging equipment.

Note 2 to entry: DICOM is defined in ISO 12052.

### 3.17

#### **deoxyribo nucleic acid**

##### **DNA**

complex molecule found in virtually every cell in the body that carries genetic information from one generation to another

### 3.18

#### **encode**

convert information into a coded form

### 3.19

#### **eye centre**

centre of the line connecting the inner and the outer corner of the eye

Note 1 to entry: The eye centres are the *feature points* (3.25) 12.1 and 12.2 as defined in ISO/IEC 14496-2.

Note 2 to entry: The inner and the outer corner of the eye are defined by ISO/IEC 14496-2. They are the feature points 3.12 and 3.8 for the right eye, and 3.11 and 3.7 for the left eye. 2021

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### 3.20

#### **eye to mouth distance**

##### **EMD**

distance between the *face centre*, *M* (3.22), and the mouth midpoint

Note 1 to entry: This corresponds to *feature point* (3.25) 2.3 from ISO/IEC 14496-2.

### 3.21

#### **f-stop**

ratio of the lens focal length to the diameter of the entrance pupil

### 3.22

#### **face centre**

##### **M**

midpoint of the line connecting the two *eye centres* (3.19)

### 3.23

#### **face image**

electronic image-based representation of the *portrait* (3.55) of a capture *subject* (3.67)

**3.24****facial animation parameter****FAP**

standard for virtual representation which includes visual speech intelligibility, mood and gesture by using *feature points* (3.25)

Note 1 to entry: This standard is specified in ISO/IEC 14496-1 and ISO/IEC 14496-2.

**3.25****feature point**

reference point in a biometric capture *subject* (3.67) image as used by feature recognition algorithms

Note 1 to entry: Commonly referred to as a landmark, an example being the position of the eyes.

**3.26****far-infrared****FIR**

section of infrared band with *wavelength* (3.74) from 50 µm - 1000 µm

Note 1 to entry: See ISO 20473.

**3.27****fish-eye**

type of distortion where central objects of the image erroneously appear closer than those at the edge

**3.28****forensic**

related to methods, techniques and processes used to establish conclusions and/or opinions, facts and findings, which can be used for legal proceedings[SOURCE: ISO 21043-1:2018, 3.14].

**3.29****forensic analysis**

scientific tests or techniques used in connection with the detection of crime

**3.30****Frankfurt Horizon****FH**

standard plane for orientation of the head

Note 1 to entry: The Frankfurt Horizon is defined by a line passing through the right trignon (the front of the ear) and the lowest point of the right eye socket. It can be hard to define, as it is related to the ear position, which can be covered by hair.

**3.31****full body**

anatomical structure of an individual that includes any or all of the head, torso and limbs

Note 1 to entry: Full body refers to a living person or a dead body, and/or *personal data* (3.53) related to this full body.

**3.32****full body image**

representation of a data *subject* (3.67) covering the *full body* (3.31)

Note 1 to entry: Full body image is not limited to the anatomical structure of the full body as the data subject refers to any individual person who can be identified, directly or indirectly, via an identifier such as a name, an ID number, location data, or via factors specific to the person's physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity.

**3.33****gait**

*subject's* (3.67) manner of walking

### 3.34

#### **gamma rays**

electromagnetic ionizing radiation, emitted by specific radioactive materials

EXAMPLE Cobalt-60 i.e.  $^{60}\text{Co}$ .

Note 1 to entry: Gamma rays shall be used only to make examinations of non-living matter i.e. *cadavers* (3.8) or chemical traces.

[SOURCE: ISO 5576:1997, 2.61, modified — EXAMPLE and Note 1 to entry added.]

### 3.35

#### **gradation**

passing by small degrees from one tone or shade, as of colour, to another

### 3.36

#### **greyscale image**

*continuous-tone image* (3.15) encoded with one luminance channel

Note 1 to entry: For example, if the luminance channel is coded with 8 bits, the greyscale image is also referred to as a monochrome or black and white image.

### 3.37

#### **histogram**

accurate representation of the distribution of numerical data

### 3.38

#### **human body**

data describing the anatomical structure of an individual that includes the head, torso and limbs

### 3.39

#### **human examination**

process of human comparison of the characteristics and structures in a biometric capture *subject* (3.67) image with those of an individual, or those in another biometric capture subject image

### 3.40

#### **human verification**

validation of the identity of a biometric capture *subject* (3.67) image by means of comparison with an individual or other biometric capture subject image

Note 1 to entry: Also known as one-to-one (1:1) comparison.

### 3.41

#### **imaging**

process of making a visual representation of something by scanning it with a detector or electromagnetic beam

Note 1 to entry: Biometric imaging can produce a feature *vector* (3.73) or feature *tensor* (3.68) of the biometric *subject* (3.67) instead of a visual representation.

### 3.42

#### **inter eye distance**

##### **IED**

length of the line connecting the *eye centres* (3.19) of the left and right eye

### 3.43

#### **implementation under test**

##### **IUT**

implementation of a technical system currently tested