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## Rolling bearings — Vocabulary

*Roulements — Vocabulaire*

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# Contents

	Page
Foreword.....	iv
Introduction.....	v
<b>1 Scope.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions.....</b>	<b>1</b>
3.1 Bearings (mechanical).....	1
3.1.1 Rolling bearings — General.....	1
3.1.2 Radial bearings.....	7
3.1.3 Thrust bearings.....	9
3.1.4 Ball bearings.....	10
3.1.5 Roller bearings.....	15
3.2 Bearing parts.....	18
3.2.1 General.....	18
3.2.2 Features of bearing parts — General.....	20
3.2.3 Bearing rings.....	23
3.2.4 Bearing washers.....	26
3.2.5 Rolling elements.....	28
3.2.6 Cages.....	30
3.3 Bearing arrangements and subunits.....	32
3.3.1 Bearing arrangements.....	32
3.3.2 Subunits.....	33
3.3.3 Rolling element and cage assemblies.....	34
3.4 Dimensions and feature identifications.....	35
3.4.1 Dimension plans, series and other feature identifications.....	35
3.4.2 Axes, planes and directions.....	37
3.4.3 Boundary dimensions.....	37
3.4.4 Dimensions of subunits and parts.....	39
3.5 Dimensions associated with tolerances.....	42
3.5.1 Widths of inner and outer rings.....	42
3.5.2 Roller dimensions.....	42
3.5.3 Internal clearance.....	43
3.6 Torque, loads and life.....	43
3.6.1 Torque.....	43
3.6.2 Actual loads.....	43
3.6.3 Equivalent loads.....	45
3.6.4 Life.....	45
3.6.5 Calculation factors.....	45
3.7 Miscellaneous.....	46
3.7.1 Housings and bearing units.....	46
3.7.2 Location and securing.....	48
<b>Bibliography.....</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Alphabetical list of terms.....</b>	<b>107</b>

## 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](http://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](http://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 on 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 the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 4, *Rolling bearings*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 5593:2019), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- Definitions, figures and notes have been modified.

# Introduction

## 0.1 General

This document establishes a vocabulary of terms, with their definitions, applied in the field of rolling bearings and their technology. Only terms which are particular to the pertinent field, or which in this field are defined in a particular way, are included. Specialized terms are found only in the rolling bearing standard for which they have been created.

## 0.2 Organization of the vocabulary

This vocabulary contains the following:

- terms, with their definition, in mixed order and grouped by topic;
- figures with index numbers of relevant terms;
- alphabetical listings of the terms, with their index numbers.

## 0.3 Organization of the figures

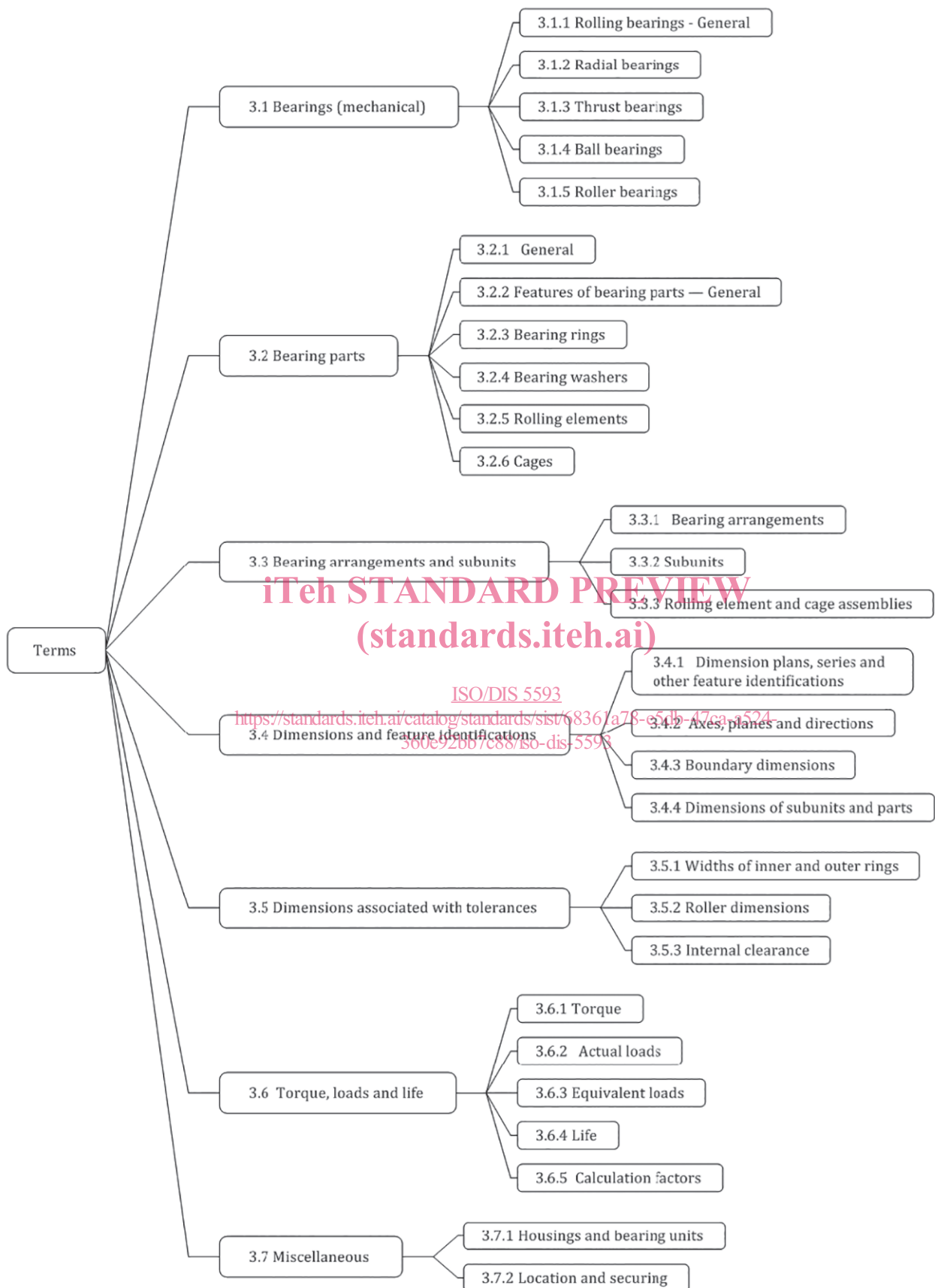
The figures are principally arranged in the same order as the terms they illustrate.

Each figure gives the index numbers of relevant terms. A figure usually shows only one example of several existing forms of a bearing or part. In most cases, the figures are simplified and leave out unnecessary details.

## 0.4 Organization of the alphabetical indexes

The alphabetical indexes include all terms. Multiple word terms appear in alphabetical order both by natural order of words and by their keywords.

The alphabetical index refers to the index number of the entry.



# Rolling bearings — Vocabulary

## 1 Scope

This document establishes a vocabulary of terms, with their definitions, applied in the field of rolling bearings and their technology under ISO Technical Committee TC 4 management.

It includes terms related to all types of rolling bearings wherein the principal degree of freedom is continuous rotation about an axis enabled by an ordered set of rolling elements between two circular raceways such that loads can be transmitted between them in a particular range of radial and/or axial directions. Also included are accessories to these products.

The following types of terms are not included:

- terms specified in ISO 76, ISO 281 and ISO 1132-1;
- terms which are narrowly applied in only one specialised rolling bearing International Standard.

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/68361a78-e5db-47ca-a524-30692b070812/iso-5593-1> or <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1 Bearings (mechanical)

#### 3.1.1 Rolling bearings — General

##### 3.1.1.1 bearing

mechanical component by means of which a moving part in relative motion is supported and/or guided with respect to other parts of a mechanism

##### 3.1.1.2 rolling bearing

bearing operating with rolling (rather than sliding) motion between the parts supporting load and moving in relation to each other

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32](#) and [33](#).

Note 2 to entry: It comprises raceway members and rolling elements with or without means for their spacing and/or guiding.

Note 3 to entry: It may be designed to support radial load, axial load or combined radial and axial load.

### 3.1.1.3

#### **single-row bearing**

#### **single-row rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with one row of rolling elements

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31](#) and [158](#).

### 3.1.1.4

#### **double-row bearing**

#### **double-row rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with two rows of rolling elements

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 5, 7, 16, 20, 25](#) and [26](#).

### 3.1.1.5

#### **multi-row bearing**

#### **multi-row rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with more than two rows of rolling elements supporting load in the same direction

Note 1 to entry: [Figure 19](#).

Note 2 to entry: It is preferable to specify the number of rows and type of bearing, for example “four-row (radial) cylindrical roller bearing”.

### 3.1.1.6

#### **insert bearing**

#### **insert ball bearing**

radial ball bearing with a spherical outside surface and an extended inner ring with a locking device

Note 1 to entry: [Figure 8](#).

Note 2 to entry: It is technically possible to have insert bearings with rollers as rolling elements. Such bearings are however so rare that, for practical use in the bearing industry, the terms “insert bearing” and “insert ball bearing” are to be considered to be synonymous.

### 3.1.1.7

#### **full complement bearing**

#### **full complement rolling bearing**

rolling bearing in which the sum of the clearances between the rolling elements in each row is less than the diameter of the rolling elements

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 14, 22, 23](#) and [157](#).

Note 2 to entry: Full complement bearings are without a cage or separators usually.

Note 3 to entry: The sum of the clearances between the rolling elements in each row is small enough to give satisfactory function of the bearing.

### 3.1.1.8

#### **angular contact bearing**

#### **angular contact rolling bearing**

rolling bearing designed to support a combination of radial and axial load

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21, 27, 29](#) and [31](#).

### 3.1.1.9

#### **rigid bearing**

#### **rigid rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which resists misalignment between the axes of its raceways

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29](#) and [30](#).



**3.1.1.10****self-aligning bearing****self-aligning rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which can accommodate angular misalignment and angular motion between the axes of its rings or washers due to one raceway being spherical

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 7, 15, 16, 31](#) and [158](#).

**3.1.1.11****external-aligning bearing****external-aligning rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which can accommodate angular misalignment between its axis and the axis of its housing by means of a spherical form on one ring or washer surface, which mates with a complementary seat surface in an aligning housing ring, in an aligning seat washer or in the housing

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 8, 58](#) and [120](#).

**3.1.1.12****separable bearing****separable rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with separable subunits

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 21, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 35, 36, 39, 40](#) and [41](#).

**3.1.1.13****non-separable bearing****non-separable rolling bearing**

rolling bearing from which, after final manufacturing assembly, neither bearing ring can be freely separated

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23](#) and [27](#).

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**3.1.1.14****split bearing****split rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with rings and the cage, when used, divided into two semicircular pieces to facilitate mounting

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 18](#).

**3.1.1.15****metric bearing****metric rolling bearing**

rolling bearing originally designed with boundary dimensions and tolerances primarily in round metric units

**3.1.1.16****metric series bearing****metric series rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which conforms to a metric series of an ISO dimension plan

**3.1.1.17****inch bearing****inch rolling bearing**

rolling bearing originally designed with boundary dimensions and tolerances in inches

**3.1.1.18****inch series bearing****inch series rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which conforms to an inch series dimension plan

**3.1.1.19**

**open bearing**

**open rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with neither seals nor shields

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30](#) and [31](#).

**3.1.1.20**

**sealed bearing**

**sealed rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which is fitted with a seal on one or both sides

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 2, 8](#) and [20](#).

**3.1.1.21**

**shielded bearing**

**shielded rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which is fitted with a shield on one or both sides

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 3](#).

**3.1.1.22**

**capped bearing**

**capped rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which is fitted with one or two seals, one or two shields or with one seal and one shield

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 2, 3, 8](#) and [20](#).

**3.1.1.23**

**prelubricated bearing**

**prelubricated rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which has been charged with lubricant by the manufacturer

**3.1.1.24**

**airframe bearing**

**airframe rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which, by reason of design or execution, is intended for use in the general structure of an aircraft, including its control systems

**3.1.1.25**

**instrument precision bearing**

**instrument precision rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which, by reason of design or execution, is intended for use in instruments

**3.1.1.26**

**railway axlebox bearing**

**railway axlebox rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which, by reason of design or execution, is intended for use in railway axleboxes

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 20](#).

Note 2 to entry: The most common type is a radial roller bearing.

**3.1.1.27**

**matched bearing**

**matched rolling bearing**

one of the rolling bearings in a matched pair or a matched stack

**3.1.1.28****coated bearing****coated rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with one or more bearing rings or bearing washers and/or the rolling elements fully or partly covered (coated) by means of a specifically defined surface coating method

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 114](#) and [115](#).

Note 2 to entry: The coating may also be applied to additional integral bearing parts such as cages and shields but, if only the additional integral bearing parts are coated, the term "coated bearing" should not be used.

**3.1.1.29****insulated bearing****insulated rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which prevents the passage of electric current and/or the equalization of different voltage potentials in a given insulation class

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 114](#), [115](#), [116](#) and [117](#).

Note 2 to entry: Commonly, either the bearing outside surface, faces and chamfers of the outer ring or the bearing bore, faces and chamfers of the inner ring are provided with an insulating layer of, for example, oxide ceramics or polymer resins.

Note 3 to entry: The insulation can, alternatively, be provided by means of the rolling elements if they are all made of a non-conductive material, for example as in some types of hybrid bearings.

**3.1.1.30****hybrid bearing****hybrid rolling bearing**

rolling bearing in which the rolling elements are made of ceramic material and at least one bearing ring or bearing washer is made of bearing steel

Note 1 to entry: See <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/68361a78-e5db-47ca-a524-360e92bb7c88/iso-dis-5593> [Figure 116](#).

Note 2 to entry: Hybrid bearings for some special applications have a limited number of their rolling elements made of ceramic material with the remainder being made of bearing steel.

**3.1.1.31****ceramic bearing****ceramic rolling bearing**

rolling bearing in which the bearing rings or bearing washers and the rolling elements are made of ceramic material

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 117](#).

**3.1.1.32****sensor bearing****sensor rolling bearing****sensorized bearing****sensorized rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with one or more integrated sensors which consist of electromechanical and/or electronic components

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 118](#).

Note 2 to entry: Temperature, speed, displacement, vibration and forces are typical items that may be monitored.

Note 3 to entry: Signal transfer to evaluation equipment is generally via cable, but may be by wireless connection.

**3.1.1.33**

**heat stabilized bearing**

**heat stabilized rolling bearing**

rolling bearing with components tempered in such a way for the bearing to withstand specified exposure temperatures and maintain dimensional stability

**3.1.1.34**

**combined bearing**

**combined rolling bearing**

rolling bearing which has two sets of rolling elements in a bearing individually supporting radial load and axial load respectively

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 119](#).

**3.1.1.35**

**duplex bearing**

**duplex rolling bearing**

stack of two rolling bearings selected or manufactured to have predetermined characteristics when mounted together

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 77, 78](#) and [79](#).

**3.1.1.36**

**face-to-face duplex bearing**

**face-to-face duplex rolling bearing**

**duplex bearing matched in X-arrangement**

stack of two matched bearings mounted with the front faces of their outer rings in contact with each other

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 78](#).

Note 2 to entry: See [3.3.1.4](#).

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**3.1.1.37**

**tandem duplex bearing**

**tandem duplex rolling bearing**

stack of two matched bearings mounted with the back face of the outer ring of one bearing in contact with the front face of the outer ring of the next bearing

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 79](#).

Note 2 to entry: See [3.3.1.5](#).

**3.1.1.38**

**back-to-back duplex bearing**

**back-to-back duplex rolling bearing**

**duplex bearing matched in O-arrangement**

stack of two matched bearings mounted with the back faces of their outer rings in contact with each other

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 77](#).

Note 2 to entry: See [3.3.1.3](#).

**3.1.1.39**

**bearing with interchangeable subunit**

**rolling bearing with interchangeable subunit**

rolling bearing designed and manufactured so that its function is kept properly when any subunit from the same group of separable (rolling) bearings is assembled with it

Note 1 to entry: Refer to *interchangeable subunit* ([3.3.2.2](#)).

**3.1.1.40****bearing with non-interchangeable subunit****rolling bearing with non-interchangeable subunit**

rolling bearing having a subunit with which it is uniquely paired and not designed and manufactured to keep its function when assembled with a subunit from any other of the same group of the separable rolling bearings

Note 1 to entry: Refer to *non-interchangeable subunit* ([3.3.2.3](#)).

**3.1.2 Radial bearings****3.1.2.1****radial bearing****radial rolling bearing**

rolling bearing designed to support primarily radial load

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22](#) and [23](#).

Note 2 to entry: Some radial rolling bearings are designed to support a pure radial or axial load as well as a combination of radial and axial loads.

Note 3 to entry: Note 3 to entry: Its principal parts are inner ring, outer ring and rolling elements with or without a cage.

**3.1.2.2****radial contact bearing****radial contact rolling bearing**

rolling bearing designed to support primarily a radial load, having a nominal contact angle of 0°

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22](#) and [23](#).

ISO/DIS 5593

**3.1.2.3****angular contact radial bearing****angular contact radial rolling bearing**

rolling bearing designed to support primarily a combined radial and axial load

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 20](#) and [21](#).

**3.1.2.4****tapered bore bearing****tapered bore rolling bearing**

radial rolling bearing having an inner ring with tapered bore

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 7](#) and [19](#).

**3.1.2.5****flanged bearing****flanged rolling bearing**

radial rolling bearing with an external radial flange on one of its rings, usually the outer ring

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 21](#).

**3.1.2.6****track roller****track roller rolling bearing**

radial rolling bearing with a heavy section outer ring, intended for use as a roller to roll on a track

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 22](#) and [23](#).

Note 2 to entry: It is intended for use as a roller to roll on a cam track.

**3.1.2.7**

**yoke-type track roller**

**yoke-type track roller rolling bearing**

track roller rolling bearing intended for mounting in a yoke

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 22](#).

**3.1.2.8**

**stud-type track roller**

**stud-type track roller rolling bearing**

track roller rolling bearing in which the inner member is extended on one side in the form of a shaft for cantilever mounting of the bearing

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 23](#).

**3.1.2.9**

**universal matching bearing**

**universal matching rolling bearing**

radial rolling bearing which, when used together with one or more similar bearing(s), selected at random, yields predetermined characteristics in a paired or stack mounting

**3.1.2.10**

**bearing with cylindrical bore**

**rolling bearing with cylindrical bore**

radial rolling bearing having an inner ring with cylindrical bore

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21 and 22](#).

**3.1.2.11**

**bearing with cylindrical outside surface**

**rolling bearing with cylindrical outside surface**

radial rolling bearing with an outer ring with cylindrical outside surface

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19 and 20](#).

**3.1.2.12**

**bearing with spherical outside surface**

**rolling bearing with spherical outside surface**

radial rolling bearing with an outer ring with spherical outside surface

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 8, 46 and 58](#).

**3.1.2.13**

**bearing with locating snap ring groove**

**rolling bearing with locating snap ring groove**

rolling bearing having a snap ring groove in the outer ring outside surface

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 97](#).

**3.1.2.14**

**bearing with locating snap ring**

**rolling bearing with locating snap ring**

rolling bearing having a locating snap ring fitted in a groove on the outer ring outside surface

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 34](#).

**3.1.2.15**

**bearing with adapter sleeve assembly**

**rolling bearing with adapter sleeve assembly**

rolling bearing combined with an adapter sleeve assembly

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 154](#).

**3.1.2.16****radial bearing with aligning housing ring****radial rolling bearing with aligning housing ring**

radial rolling bearing combined with an aligning housing ring

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 58](#).**3.1.3 Thrust bearings****3.1.3.1****thrust bearing****thrust rolling bearing**

rolling bearing designed to support primarily axial load

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30](#) and [31](#).

Note 2 to entry: Some thrust rolling bearings are designed to support a combination of axial and radial loads.

Note 3 to entry: Its principal parts are shaft washer, housing washer and rolling elements with or without a cage.

**3.1.3.2****axial contact bearing****axial contact rolling bearing**

rolling bearing designed to support an axial load

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 24, 25, 26, 28](#) and [30](#).**3.1.3.3****angular contact thrust bearing****angular contact thrust rolling bearing**

rolling bearing designed to support a combination of axial and radial loads

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 27, 29](#) and [31](#).  
<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/68361a78-e5db-47ca-a524-360e92bb7c88/iso-dis-5593>**3.1.3.4****single-direction thrust bearing****single-direction thrust rolling bearing**

thrust rolling bearing intended to support axial load in one direction only

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 24, 26, 28, 29, 30](#) and [31](#).**3.1.3.5****double-direction thrust bearing****double-direction thrust rolling bearing**

thrust rolling bearing intended to support axial load in both directions

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 25](#) and [27](#).**3.1.3.6****double-row double-direction thrust bearing****double-row double-direction thrust rolling bearing**

double-direction thrust rolling bearing having two rows of rolling elements, each supporting axial load in one direction only

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 25](#).**3.1.3.7****thrust bearing with flat back faces****thrust rolling bearing with flat back faces**

thrust rolling bearing in which the back faces of the housing and shaft washers are flat

Note 1 to entry: See [Figures 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30](#) and [31](#).