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Information technology — User interfaces — ~~Framework for evaluating the~~ — Evaluating usability of a natural user interfaces

Technologie de l'information — Interfaces utilisateur — Cadre pour l'évaluation de l'utilisabilité d'une interface utilisateur naturelle

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Foreword

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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 or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

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

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 and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

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Introduction

As smart devices such as smart phones and smart speakers have become popular, new forms of user interfaces have been introduced. One aspect of the new interfaces is mimicking natural ways of interacting with the devices and utilizing speech, gestures, body language, eye gaze, and other natural features of human communication through natural user interfaces (NUIs), which allow for faster, smoother, intuitive, and smarter interaction. However, while the concept of NUI is well defined, practical applications of NUI still need to be developed. This is strongly related to the lack of usability of NUI in smart devices.

When specified users of systems, products or services achieve their specified goals with effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction in a specified context of use (as defined in ISO/IEC 9241-11), usability can be evaluated. Effectiveness is considered as the ability of users to complete tasks with the system (e.g. the NUI). Efficiency measures resources taken by users to complete specified tasks. Satisfaction measures comfort levels of user experience along with acceptance.

It is important that the usability evaluation of NUI concentrates on recognizing the user's intention and focuses on multiple modalities of information flows between the users and the devices.

This document describes a framework for evaluating the usability of NUI. Although the framework can be applied in most general contexts, it is specifically focused on optimizing user experiences in terms of NUI.

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Information technology — User interfaces — ~~Framework for evaluating the~~ — Evaluating usability of ~~a~~ natural user interfaceinterfaces

1 Scope

This document provides a framework ~~and~~ requirements and recommendations for evaluating the usability of a natural user interface (NUI) for systems, products or services. Measuring and reporting the usability of the NUI are also described. The usability evaluation focuses on the efficiency, effectiveness and satisfaction of the NUI. This document can also be applied to the usability evaluation of other user interfaces (UIs) for emerging technologies.

2 Normative reference

There are no normative references in this document.

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 9241-11, *Ergonomics of human-system interaction — Part 11: Usability: Definitions and concepts*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 9241-11 and the following apply.

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 Terms related to natural user

3.1.1

user interface

UI

set of all the components of an interactive system that provide information and controls for the user to accomplish specific tasks with the interactive system

[SOURCE: ISO 9241-110:2020, 3.10]

3.1.2**natural user interface****NUI**

user interface where the user operates the interface through a manner related to everyday human behaviours in a real world

Note 1 to entry: Natural refers to the user's expectations, behaviour and feelings that are involved in interacting with a NUI.

Note 2 to entry: Everyday human behaviours refer to behaviours that the user can be expected to have already learned.

Note 3 to entry: Interactions with NUIs typically model interactions performed in the natural world, including (but not limited to) touch, gestures ~~and~~/or vocal interactions, or a combination thereof.

3.1.3**natural user interface interaction****NUI interaction**

user-system interaction making use of a natural user interface

3.1.4**naturalness**

correspondence with everyday interactions between humans and the real-world objects with which they interact

Note 1 to entry: Naturalness relates to everyday behaviours that the user can be expected to have already learned.

EXAMPLE To perform a "hello" gesture, the user refers to an object by pointing; to order something the user issues a vocal command; or to agree the user nods in the affirmative or voices a vocal onomatopoeia for agreement.

3.2 Terms related to usability**3.2.1****usability**

extent to which a system, product or service can be used by specified users to achieve specified goals with effectiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction in a specified context of use

Note 1 to entry: The "specified" users, goals and context of use refer to the particular combination of users, goals and context of use for which usability is being considered.

Note 2 to entry: The word "usability" is also used as a qualifier to refer to the design knowledge, competencies, activities and design attributes that contribute to usability, such as usability expertise, usability professional, usability engineering, usability method, usability evaluation, usability heuristic.

[SOURCE: ISO 9241-11:2018, 3.1.1]

3.2.2**user**

person who interacts with a system, product, or service

Note 1 to entry: Users of a system, product or service include people who operate the system, people who make use of the output of the system and people who support the system (including providing maintenance and training).

[SOURCE: ISO 9241-11:2018, 3.1.7]