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ISO
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2024-05-17

Information and documentation— International standard name identifier (ISNI)

*Information et documentation — Code international normalisé des
noms (ISNI)*

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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.

~~International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.~~

~~The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.~~

~~Attention is drawn~~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 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).

~~ISO draws attention~~ to the possibility that ~~some of the elements~~implementation of this document may ~~be involve~~ the ~~subject~~use of (a) patent(s). ~~ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights, in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at www.iso.org/patents. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.~~

~~ISO 27729~~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 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Identification and description*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 27729:2012), of which it constitutes a minor revision. It also incorporates the Technical Corrigendum ISO 27729:2012/Cor 1:2023.

The changes are as follows:

— correction of corrects a typographical error previously present in Table A1, Table A1, such that the last line in the Result column of Step 5 now correctly reads “320 / 11 = 29 remainder 1”. ~~There are no other changes.~~

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 International Standard document includes a specification for an identifier for the public identities of parties. It aims to provide an efficient means to disambiguate such public identities in the digital environment so that the roles participants play in creation, production, management and content distribution chains can be recognized accurately, and the content they are involved in creating can be managed effectively.

Identifiers created under this International Standard document can be used to identify public identities of parties in databases and they can support the exchange of information in the management of media content.

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Information and documentation — International standard name identifier (ISNI)

1 Scope

This International Standard document specifies the International Standard name identifier (ISNI) for the identification of public identities of parties, i.e. the identities used publicly by parties involved throughout the media content industries in the creation, production, management and content distribution chains.

The ISNI system uniquely identifies public identities across multiple fields of creative activity and provides a tool for disambiguating public identities that might otherwise be confused.

The ISNI is not intended to provide direct access to comprehensive information about a public identity but can provide links to other systems where such information is held.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for referred to in the application 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 7064, *Information technology — Security techniques — Check character systems*

3 Terms and definitions

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

party

natural person or legal person, whether or not incorporated, or a group of either

3.2

registrant

party (3.1)(3.1) that requests an ISNI from the Registration Authority

3.3

public identity

identity of a party (3.1)(3.1) or a fictional character that is or was presented to the public

3.4 name

character string by which a *public identity*, ~~(3.3)~~(3.3) is or was commonly referenced

4 Structure and syntax of the ISNI

4.1 An ISNI shall consist of 16 digits. It shall consist of two components:

- a) 15 decimal digits, and
- b) a check character.

4.2 An ISNI shall consist of a “dumb” number, of which no meaning shall be embedded in, conveyed by or imputed to any part or subset of the number.

4.3 When an ISNI is written, printed or otherwise presented in a human-readable format:

- a) it shall be preceded by the letters ISNI, separated from the identifier by a space, and
- b) the 16 digits shall be displayed as four blocks of four digits, with each block separated from the next by a space.

EXAMPLE ISNI 1422 4586 3573 0476

The characters “ISNI” and the space characters shall not be considered to form part of the ISNI.

4.4 The check character may be either a decimal digit or the character “X” and shall be calculated using the preceding 15 decimal digits in accordance with the ISO/IEC 7064, MOD11-2 algorithm, as described in ~~Annex A~~Annex A.

5 Allocation of an ISNI

~~Annex B gives the~~The principles for the allocation and use of an ISNI. ~~shall be in accordance with Annex B.~~

6 Administration of the ISNI system

The ISNI system shall be administered by the Registration Authority of this ~~International Standard~~document, hereafter referred to as the ISNI Registration Authority.

The ISNI Registration Authority shall be responsible for defining the system architecture supporting the ISNI.

The principal tasks of the ISNI Registration Authority ~~are~~shall be in accordance with those outlined in ~~Annex C~~Annex C.

7 Association of an ISNI with ISNI metadata

An ISNI shall be associated with ISNI metadata (~~see Annex D~~)as specified in Annex D about the public identity it identifies by means of a register. The ISNI Registration Authority shall be responsible for the maintenance of this register.