

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



3831

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION • МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ • ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

## Timekeeping instruments — Classification and numbering system and nomenclature of components for watches and clocks

*Instruments horaires — Système de numérotation et de classification, et nomenclature des composants de montres et d'horloges*

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## FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 3831-1978\* was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 114, *Horology*, in co-operation with Ébauches S.A.\*\*

The preparation and publication of the *Horological Dictionary – Terminology and Numbering* (1976 Edition), which is to be considered as forming an integral part of this International Standard, was carried out by Ébauches S.A., based on the work of ISO/TC 114.

The first edition of this International Standard was circulated to the member bodies in June 1977.

It has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Australia	Japan	Switzerland
Czechoslovakia	Korea, Rep. of	United Kingdom
France	South Africa, Rep. of	U.S.S.R.
Germany, F.R.	Spain	

No member body expressed disapproval of the document.

\* This standard is technically equivalent to Swiss National Horological Standard NIHS 02-05-1976.

\*\* Ébauches S.A., Faubourg de l'Hôpital, 2001 Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

# Timekeeping instruments – Classification and numbering system and nomenclature of components for watches and clocks

## 0 INTRODUCTION

The object of the classification and numbering system described in this International Standard is to achieve rationalization in the worldwide distribution of horological components. If all horological firms use the same numbering system and the same terms to define components, the problems of terminology and identification will be considerably simplified.

The classification and numbering system has been worked out to provide an unequivocal identification number for each component or constructional group of watches and clocks, using a minimum number of digits.

The dictionary\* which is to be considered as forming an integral part of this International Standard (see Foreword) has been prepared on the basis of the above principles.

## 1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard lays down a classification and numbering system for components and constructional groups of watches and clocks.

## 2 CLASSIFICATION

Components and groups of components are classified according to ten principal groups of functions (see 3.2) and ten groups of types of mechanism (see 3.3).

Within the classification groups, defined by the first two digits, similar components have been combined into groups for ease of reference.

## 3 NUMBERING SYSTEM

### 3.1 Structure of the identification number

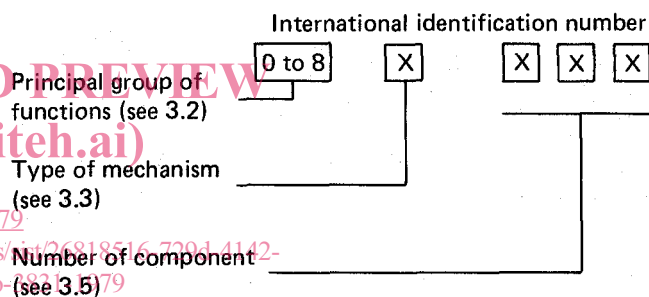
The identification number consists of five digits. The first digit (0 to 9) defines the principal group of functions (see 3.2).

The second digit (0 to 9) gives information about the type of mechanism to which the parts belong (see 3.3).

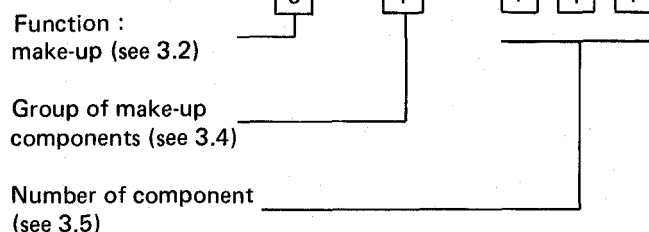
The third, fourth and fifth digits provide information on individual components or constructional groups.

The international identification number therefore is represented as follows :

#### Movement



#### Make-up



The numbering system presupposes that there will be additional digits to the left and to the right (before and after the international identification number) to indicate, for example, calibre number and variations in manufacture of a given component. International standardization of the additional digits has not been undertaken because it is considered to involve too many problems. However, the

\* *Horological Dictionary – Terminology and Numbering* (1976). Éditions Ébauches S.A., Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

additional digits chosen in the dictionary may be considered as constituting a recommendation to be followed by the horological industry throughout the world; solutions offered by systems other than those shown in the relevant section of the dictionary are also available. Consequently, to avoid confusion, it is not advisable to use the digits from the dictionary for other classification systems. Similarly, it is recommended that new additional digits, if they are to be used in a widely disseminated numbering system, should not be employed without consultation with the publisher of the dictionary, who is entrusted by ISO with its permanent upkeep.

The system provides for an extension of the number of terms in each group and type without reaching the point of saturation. This ability, together with the requirement for a five-digit number, has, in some cases, necessitated certain departures from the logic of the system: for example, the grouping of more than one function into a single class, and the inclusion of concepts for functions of groups of components rather than for functions of individual components. This applies particularly to components in more or less advanced stages of assembly.

It has been considered preferable to allow for these possibilities rather than to adhere to a strictly logical numbering system comprising numbers with a great many digits.

For the same reason, it has been decided not to attempt an international codification of component assembly stages. Thus, the dictionary includes names of components formed of two or more parts. For internal administrative purposes, individual firms may establish additional codification to identify production or assembly stages, using the international identification numbers as the root.

The whole identification number of a component or a group of components thus consists of a number with five digits, as described in this International Standard, plus additional relevant numbers for the calibre, etc.

Lastly, provision has been made for entry into numbering systems referring to dimensional or morphological classifications in certain cases (see 3.3, point 8).

### 3.2 Principal groups of functions

These groups are represented by the first digit, as follows:

- 0. Provisional code
- 1. Framework
- 2. Energy supply
- 3. Rotary toothed transmission
- 4. Distributing and regulating elements
- 5. Transmission non-rotary, set into position and limitation
- 6. Return and friction elements
- 7. Bearings

- 8. Fastening and assembly elements
- 9. Make-up

### 3.3 Types of mechanism

These types are represented by the second digit. For groups represented by the first digit 0 to 8, the information provided by the second digit is as follows:

- 0. Basic movement
- 1. Winding and handsetting mechanisms
- 2. Automatic winding mechanism
- 3. Date, calendar and moon phase mechanisms
- 4. Alarm and striking mechanisms
- 5. Chronograph, timer and split-second mechanisms
- 6. Special mechanisms
- 7.
- 8. For dimensional classification or other systems without attribution of mechanism

### 3.4 Make-up components

For the group represented by the first digit 9 (make-up), the information provided by the second digit is as follows:

- 0. Dials and static indicators
- 1. Hands and dynamic displays
- 2. Cases
- 3. Cases accessories
- 4. Cabinets and accessories
- 5. Glasses
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

### 3.5 Numbers for components or constructional groups

These numbers consist of three digits and have been allocated as follows:

- 000 to 499 for mechanical part
- 500 to 999 for electrical or electronic part

This last classification is not valid for the following first two digits :

- 70.XXX to 78.XXX
- 80.XXX to 89.XXX
- 90.YYY to 92.YYY and 95.YYY

Any requests may be addressed to the secretary of ISO/TC 114 or to any national standards organisation.

#### 4 NOMENCLATURE

The terms for components and constructional groups are given in the following eight languages :

French  
English  
Russian  
German

Italian  
Spanish  
Portuguese  
Japanese

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