

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



HORIZONTAL STANDARD  
NORME HORIZONTALE

**Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products –  
Structuring principles and reference designations –  
Part 2: Classification of objects and codes for classes**

**Systèmes industriels, installations et appareils, et produits industriels –  
Principes de structuration et désignations de référence –  
Partie 2: Classification des objets et codes pour les classes**

[IEC 81346-2:2019](https://standards.iteh.ai/iec-81346-2-2019)

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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references .....	6
3 Terms and definitions .....	6
4 Classification principles .....	7
4.1 General.....	7
4.2 Relation between classification and composition.....	8
4.3 Classification schemes of this document.....	8
5 Classification scheme for the inherent function of objects .....	9
5.1 General.....	9
5.2 Entry classes .....	9
5.3 Complete classification scheme .....	10
6 Classification of spaces .....	69
7 Classification of objects applicable for infrastructure .....	79
Annex A (informative) Classification criteria for objects.....	82
A.1 General.....	82
A.2 Structure of classes and subclasses .....	82
A.3 Definition of classes.....	83
Annex B (informative) Object classes related to a generic process .....	84
Annex C (informative) Object classes related to objects in a generic infrastructure .....	85
Annex D (informative) Comparison between Tables 1, 2 and 3 of this document and Tables 1 and 2 of IEC 81346-2:2009.....	87
Annex E (informative) Basic requirements for the development of IEC 81346-2 .....	91
Bibliography.....	92
Figure 1 – Illustration of a classification hierarchy and a composition hierarchy .....	8
Figure A.1 – Illustration of class hierarchy .....	83
Figure B.1 – Object classes related to a generic process .....	84
Figure C.1 – Object classes related to objects in a generic infrastructure.....	86
Table 1 – Entry classes.....	10
Table 2 – First two levels of the classification scheme for inherent function of objects .....	11
Table 3 – Complete classification scheme for inherent function of objects.....	26
Table 4 – Classification scheme for spaces.....	70
Table 5 – Classes of infrastructure objects .....	80
Table 6 – Examples of branch-related classes B to U of Table 5 .....	81
Table D.1 – Comparison between Table 1 of the current edition and Table 1 of IEC 81346-2:2009.....	87
Table D.2 – Comparison between Table 2 and Table 3 of the current edition and Table 2 of IEC 81346-2:2009.....	87

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**INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS, INSTALLATIONS  
AND EQUIPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS –  
STRUCTURING PRINCIPLES AND REFERENCE DESIGNATIONS –****Part 2: Classification of objects and codes for classes**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 81346-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 3: Information structures and elements, identification and marking principles, documentation and graphical symbols, in cooperation with ISO technical committee 10: Technical product documentation.

It is published as a double logo standard.

It has the status of a horizontal standard in accordance with IEC Guide 108.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) The entry classes of the classification scheme have been defined to reflect the “inherent function” of the object classified;
- b) The classes are defined to align with the principles of ISO 22274 and ISO 704;
- c) A three-level classification scheme has been defined, which provides a greater flexibility for the designer in some technical fields;
- d) Classes are defined by their definition and provided with a preferred term. Examples are provided if needed;
- e) A separate classification scheme for spaces has been provided.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
3/1393/FDIS	3/1402/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 81346 series, published under the general title *Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products – Structuring principles and reference designations*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or [IEC 81346-2:2019](#)
- amended.

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## INTRODUCTION

The aim of this document is to establish classification schemes for objects with assigned letter codes for the defined classes, which can be applied throughout all technical areas, e.g. electric, mechanical, process and civil engineering as well as all branches of industry, e.g. energy, chemical, construction, automotive, shipbuilding and marine. The letter codes are intended for use with the rules for the construction of reference designations in accordance with IEC 81346-1 and other parts of the ISO/IEC 81346 series. The letter codes can also be used "stand-alone" as a generic type designation where a type of component is to be indicated, for example in specifications.

The classification scheme in Clause 5 of this document is an enumerative and faceted classification scheme with the inherent function as the entry class. It is made in accordance with the rules in ISO 704 and the guidelines in ISO 22274.

At the entry level, as shown in Table 1, the inherent function is used to narrow down the areas of applicability of the individual classes to a manageable size. For the sub-divisions of the entry classes, faceted approaches are applied to specify the nature of the concepts contained in the leaf classes.

By applying this method, this document provides stable class codes for objects (including systems and system elements), which are independent of how the objects are used or applied in any design during the entire lifecycle.

Any class is defined by its definition only. Users should select the appropriate class for their object to be classified based on the definition, and not rely upon the class name or the examples.

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