
**Assessment and benchmarking of
terminological resources — General
concepts, principles and requirements**

*Critères d'évaluation comparative des ressources terminologiques —
Concepts, principes et exigences d'ordre général*

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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Terms and definitions	1
3 Uses of terminological resources	2
4 Terminological resources	3
4.1 General	3
4.2 Model for assessment of terminological resources	4
4.3 General usability attributes of terminological resources	4
5 Guidelines for an assessment and benchmarking project	11
5.1 Overview	11
5.2 Main steps of the workflow	12
5.3 Test-case assessment	12
Annex A (normative) Usability attributes of terminological resources and basic rules for measurement	13
Annex B (informative) Typical application of usability attributes as benchmarks	17
Bibliography	21

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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.

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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 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.

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Introduction

Global society is undergoing an accelerated development towards becoming a science- and technology-driven multilingual information and knowledge society characterized by the all-pervading influence of information and communication technology (ICT). Reliable language resources (such as text and speech corpora, terminologies, computational lexicons, etc.) are essential to support the emerging knowledge and content industries. Terminology information is thus becoming a key element in all regulatory activities, as seen, for example, in technical standardization, quality management and regulation of intellectual property rights.

In the emerging semantic web, dedicated and non-dedicated browsers or web services search web-based databases and portals containing structured content (i.e. collections of content items at the level of lexical semantics). The user increasingly does not want to be overburdened with non-evaluated information, but to receive the most pertinent and reliable information for his/her purpose without missing important information. The results of automatic or semi-automatic searches, therefore, will increasingly have to be compounded and condensed by semantic analyses in order to meet user requirements.

If seemingly relevant information is found in a multitude of collections of structured content, systematic syntactic and semantic filtering, selection and evaluation processes take place. At some stage of these processes, browsers or web services have to globally distinguish between more or less pertinent and reliable terminological data as it is being collected for the sake of prioritization and optimization.

Terminological data can have many functions, the most prominent of which are

- knowledge representation (concept),
- knowledge ordering (concept classification),
- access to other kinds of structured or unstructured content, and
- means or elements of communication and knowledge transfer.

For uses and reuses such as translation, localization and content management, a systematic approach to automatic or semi-automatic assessment and benchmarking of resources or containing terminological data becomes necessary.

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Assessment and benchmarking of terminological resources — General concepts, principles and requirements

1 Scope

This International Standard describes fundamental concepts related to the effective use of terminological data. It provides general principles for a model applicable to a variety of terminological resources. It clarifies the usability attributes that constitute the model and provides guidelines for the overall assessment of terminological resources by taking the user's objectives into account.

2 Terms and definitions

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

2.1

assessment

⟨terminology⟩ process to demonstrate that a **terminological resource** (2.8) fulfils specified requirements

2.2

benchmark

⟨terminology⟩ **usability attribute** (2.11) used as a reference point or metric against which the **usability** (2.10) of a **terminological resource** (2.8) can be measured

2.3

benchmarking

⟨terminology⟩ application of **benchmarks** (2.2) to **terminological resources** (2.8)

2.4

entity

any concrete or abstract thing that exists, did exist, or might exist, including associations among these things

EXAMPLE A person, an object, an event, an idea, a process, etc.

[ISO/IEC 2382-17:1999, 17.02.05]

2.5

model for assessment

⟨terminology⟩ model that identifies the **usability attributes** (2.11) of **terminological resources** (2.8) and their interrelationships

2.6

special language

language used in a subject field and characterized by the use of specific linguistic means of expression

[ISO 1087-1:2000, definition 3.1.3]

2.7

terminological data

data related to concepts or their designations

[ISO 1087-1:2000, definition 3.8.1]