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**Dentistry — Number coding system for  
rotary instruments —**

**Part 3:  
Specific characteristics of burs and  
cutters**

*Art dentaire — Système de codification numérique pour instruments  
rotatifs —*

*Partie 3: Caractéristiques spécifiques des fraises et fraises  
de laboratoire*

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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 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.

ISO 6360-3 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 106, *Dentistry*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Dental instruments*.

ISO 6360 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Dentistry — Number coding system for rotary instruments*:

- *Part 1: General characteristics*
- *Part 2: Shapes*
- *Part 3: Specific characteristics of burs and cutters*
- *Part 4: Specific characteristics of diamond instruments*
- *Part 6: Specific characteristics of abrasive instruments*
- *Part 7: Specific characteristics of mandrels and special instruments*

The following part is under preparation:

- *Part 5: Specific characteristics of root-canal instruments*

## Introduction

This part of ISO 6360 is one of a series of International Standards relating to dental rotary instruments. A wide variety of dental rotary instruments, including root-canal instruments, is manufactured throughout the world for use by the dental profession.

ISO 6360 provides a general number coding system for all types of dental rotary instruments, including accessories used in connection with these rotary instruments.

The benefits of this system for dentistry in its entirety will only be derived if the system is widely adopted; manufacturers of dental instruments, as well as the dental trade, are therefore requested to refer to ISO 6360 in their catalogues.

This part of ISO 6360 was prepared in response to a need by the dental trade and industry and the dental profession for a universal system of classification and designation for these instruments. It establishes a comprehensive number coding system suitable for all dental rotary instruments by use of a 15-digit code number identifying general and specific characteristics of instruments or groups of instruments.

The first group of three digits identifies the materials used for the working part of instruments.

The second group of three digits identifies the shanks and handles used for instruments and the overall lengths of instruments.

The third group of three digits identifies the shapes of instruments.

The fourth group of three digits identifies the specific characteristics for groups of instruments.

The fifth group of three digits identifies the nominal diameter of the working part of the instruments.

The code numbers are generic code numbers. They do not provide exact product information. This information is given in the respective product standards for dental rotary instruments.

For the application of the system and for the correct allocation of numbers or their identification it is intended that the user consult ISO 6360-1 and ISO 6360-2 for general information, and in addition one of the subsequent parts (ISO 6360-3 to ISO 6360-7) for further information on specific characteristics of instruments or groups of instruments.

For the allocation of new numbers complying with ISO 6360, an application supported by a description and a drawing should be sent to the secretariat of ISO/TC 106/SC 4, *Dental instruments*, which keeps updated records of all numbers currently allocated. An international group of experts will then decide on an appropriate identification number for the instrument in question, including its specific characteristics. The Secretary will inform the applicant, in due course, of the result and assist him in using the number correctly. The Secretariat of ISO/TC 106/SC 4 can be contacted at:

DIN NADENT  
Alexander-Wellendorff-Str. 2  
75172 Pforzheim  
Germany



# Dentistry — Number coding system for rotary instruments —

## Part 3: Specific characteristics of burs and cutters

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 6360 specifies the code numbers for specific characteristics of burs, finishing burs, cutters and surgical instruments, which refer to the type of tothing on the working part of the instrument. This three digit number appears in the locations 10 to 12 of the 15-digit overall number and forms the fourth group of three digits in the 15-digit overall number, the principles of which are explained in ISO 6360-1 and 6360-2.

**NOTE** In addition to terms for rotary instruments and accessories used in two of the three official ISO languages (English, French and Russian) this part of ISO 6360 gives the equivalent terms in the German language; these are published under the responsibility of the member body for Germany (DIN). However, only the terms given in the official languages can be considered as ISO terms.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 6360-1, *Dentistry — Number coding system for rotary instruments — Part 1: General characteristics*

ISO 6360-2, *Dentistry — Number coding system for rotary instruments — Part 2: Shapes*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 6360-1 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

##### **primary tothing**

first tothing

tothing on the working part of the instrument which is the deepest tothing

**NOTE** The orientation of the helix is either in the left or right direction.

#### 3.2

##### **secondary tothing**

tothing on the working part of the instrument with a tothing depth less than the primary tothing

#### 3.3

##### **crosscut**

helical crosscut

spiral cut

secondary tothing which is formed by a single uninterrupted helical cut