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Horological vocabulary —

Part 2: Technical and commercial definitions

Vocabulaire horloger —

Partie 2: Définitions technico-commerciales

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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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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.

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).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 114, *Horology*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Technical definitions*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 6426-2:2002), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Amendment ISO 6426-2:2002/Amd.1:2012 and the Technical Corrigendum ISO 6426-2:2002/Cor.1:2003.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— some new definitions were added;

— some definitions were modified;

— the standard’s structure was modified;

— Table 1 was moved as a new Annex A.

A list of all parts in the ISO 6426 series can be found on the ISO website.

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 document provides technical and commercial definitions in horology; ISO 6426-1 gives technical and scientific definitions, mainly relating to the rate of the time-measuring instrument.

The definitions given in this document, intended more particularly for the general public, have been simplified, especially with regard to terms concerning the rate of a time-measuring instrument.

Where there is ambiguity, it is advisable to refer to the definitions of the corresponding terms in ISO 6426-1, which are more detailed.

Terms that do not give rise to any confusion, and which occur in other specialized documents, have not been included in this document.

Horological vocabulary —

Part 2:
Technical and commercial definitions

1 Scope

This document defines the principal terms used in horology.

The terms and definitions apply to time-measuring instruments and related devices.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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/

4 Terms related to time

4.1
time
undefined medium in which existing objects appear to develop irreversibly in the changes which they undergo, and in which events and phenomena appear to occur in their succession

Note 1 to entry: To this medium corresponds a quantity, *t*, allowing, in a time scale, the chronological filing of events.

4.2
date
instant in a time scale

Note 1 to entry: In current use, the notation of this term stands for the indication of the year, month, day of the week and day of the month.

5 Terms related to time-measuring instruments

5.1
time-measuring instrument
instrument indicating the time of day or measuring a duration, separately or simultaneously

5.2
timekeeping instrument
time-measuring instrument, indicating the time of day

5.3
counter
time-measuring instrument, measuring durations

Note 1 to entry: A counter does not indicate the time of day.

5.4
programmable time counter
time-measuring instrument fitted with one or more devices permitting control of operations at predetermined intervals of time

5.5
programmable timekeeping instrument
programmable time counter which incorporates the functions of a timekeeping instrument

5.6
watch
timekeeping instrument designed to be worn and to function in all positions

5.7
stopwatch
portable time counter allowing measurement of durations

5.8
clock
miniature clock
regulator
timekeeping instrument that is not intended to be worn, but rather used in a certain position

5.9
mechanical timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument of which the following main components are exclusively mechanical: driving energy, oscillating device and its maintenance and time display

5.10
electric timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument having a source of electrical energy and a system for electromechanical maintenance of the oscillating device (having a mechanical contactor, i.e. complete absence of any electronic control of the oscillating device)

5.11
solar cell timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument that utilizes light energy as a source of electrical power

5.12
electronic timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument having an oscillating device maintained by electronic control

5.13
spring balance timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument whose time base comprises a spring balance oscillating device

5.14
quartz timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument whose time base comprises a quartz oscillating device

5.15
tuning fork timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument whose time base comprises a metal tuning fork oscillating device maintained electromagnetically

5.16
digital quartz timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument having a quartz time base in which the display is digital

5.17
analogue quartz timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument having a quartz time base in which the display is by a dial and hands

5.18
analogue and digital quartz timekeeping instrument
quartz based timekeeping instrument having a combination of analogue (hands) and digital (numerals) displays

5.19
timekeeping instrument with small seconds hand
timekeeping instrument with a seconds hand whose axis is offset from the hour and minute axis

5.20
multifunction timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument having other functions in addition to those indicating hour, minute, second, date and day

5.21
radio-controlled timekeeping instrument
timekeeping instrument which can receive standard time signal and automatically regulate time and calendar according to the received signal

5.22
skeleton watch
watch in which it is possible to observe the movement through a transparent exterior, the movement having hollowed parts or transparent parts allowing the mechanism to be viewed

5.23
tourbillon watch
watch including a turning cage which carries all the parts of the escapement and, in its centre, the regulator element (balance with hairspring) as a time base

Note 1 to entry: The escapement pinion is carried around the fixed fourth wheel, which in this case is the seconds' wheel. The cage generally turns one revolution per minute, and it minimizes the vertical positional timing errors whilst it turns.

5.24
carrousel watch
watch including a device similar to a tourbillon but in which the cage is driven by the third wheel

5.25
chronograph
timekeeping instrument comprising a time counter allowing measurement and display of time intervals independently of keeping and indicating the time of day

Note 1 to entry: A chronograph can also incorporate a recording device.

5.26
smartwatch
watch able to process information and capable of communicating (emission and reception) with peripheral devices

5.27
shock-resistant watch
watch able to resist mechanical shock

Note 1 to entry: For further information, see ISO 1413.