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Information technology — Control functions for text communication

Technologies de l'information — Fonctions de commande pour la communication de texte

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for world-wide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO/IEC 10538 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*.

Annexes A, B and C of this International Standard are for information only.

Introduction

This International Standard combines in one document the repertoires of control functions for text communication that were first published in Draft International Standard ISO/DIS 6937-3 (for the control functions for page-image format), and in the Draft Proposal for ISO 6937-4 (for the control functions for formatted and formattable text).

Because these repertoires of control functions are applicable to text communication in general, and can be used independently from ISO 6937, JTC 1/SC2 at its 21st plenary meeting in London in October 1988 decided in resolution 8 that the former ISO 6937-3 and ISO 6937-4 were to be published as a single new International Standard.

Information technology - Control functions for text communication

Section 1 - General

1 Scope

This International Standard defines the control functions, and their coded representations needed, for use in text communication.

Section 2 specifies the control functions for text in page-image format, Section 3 specifies the control functions for formatted and formattable text.

The control functions, with the exception of two, have been taken from ISO 6429. The definitions of the control functions in this International Standard are, in general, more specific than the corresponding definitions in ISO 6429.

The specifications in this International Standard apply to the interchange of text in the form of binary-coded representations of graphic characters and control functions. They are not intended for the actual processing of text.

Although, in general, text consists of characters and pictures, this International Standard applies only to text made up of characters.

The coded representations defined in this International Standard are intended for use when the control functions concerned are embedded in the communicated text, not when they are separated from the text as elements of a communication protocol, for example.

This International Standard does not define any control functions required for controlling the process of communication.

2 Conformance

2.1 Types of conformance

Full conformance to a standard means that all of its requirements are met. Conformance will only have a unique meaning if the standard contains no options. If there are options within the standard then they shall be clearly identified, and any claim of conformance shall include a statement that identifies those options that have been adopted.

This International Standard is of a different nature since it specifies for the applications in Section 2 and Section 3 a number of facilities from which different selections may be made to suit individual application requirements. These selections are identified as levels in clauses 12 and 16. They shall be identified at the time that a claim of conformance is made. Conformance to such an identified selection is known as limited conformance.

2.2 Conformance of information interchange

A coded-character-data-element (CC-data-element) within coded information for interchange is in conformance with a Section and a level of this International Standard if all coded representations of control functions within that CC-data-element conform either to the requirements of clause 12 or to those of clause 16.

A claim of conformance shall identify the Section and the level adopted.

2.3 Conformance of devices

A device is in conformance with this International Standard if it conforms to the requirements of 2.3.1, and either or both 2.3.2 and 2.3.3. Any claim of conformance shall identify the document which contains the description specified in 2.3.1, and shall identify Section and the level as well as the selected control functions.

2.3.1 Device description

A device that conforms to this International Standard shall be the subject of a description that identifies the means by which the user may supply the selected control functions or may recognize them when they are made available to him, as specified in 2.3.2. and 2.3.3, respectively.

2.3.2 Originating devices

An originating device shall allow its user to supply any sequence of control functions from the Section and level adopted, and shall be capable of transmitting their coded representation within a CC-data-element.

2.3.3 Receiving devices

A receiving device shall be capable of receiving and interpreting any coded representations of control functions that are within a CC-data-element, and that conform to 2.2, and shall make the corresponding control functions available to its user in such a way that the user can identify them from among those of the Section and level adopted, and can distinguish them from each other.

3 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards listed below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 2022:1986, *Information processing - ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets - Code extension techniques.*

ISO 6429:1988, *Information processing - Control functions for 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets.*

ISO 7350:1991, *Text communication - Registration of graphic repertoires of characters from ISO 10367.*