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Information and documentation — International standard name identifier (ISNI)

Information et documentation — Code international normalisé des noms (ISNI)

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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 27729 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Identification and description*.

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Introduction

This International Standard includes a specification for an identifier for the public identities of parties. It aims to provide an efficient means to disambiguate such public identities in the digital environment so that the roles participants play in creation, production, management and content distribution chains can be recognized accurately, and the content they are involved in creating can be managed effectively.

Identifiers created under this International Standard can be used to identify public identities of parties in databases and they can support the exchange of information in the management of media content.

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Information and documentation — International standard name identifier (ISNI)

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the International Standard name identifier (ISNI) for the identification of public identities of parties, i.e. the identities used publicly by parties involved throughout the media content industries in the creation, production, management and content distribution chains.

The ISNI system uniquely identifies public identities across multiple fields of creative activity and provides a tool for disambiguating public identities that might otherwise be confused.

The ISNI is not intended to provide direct access to comprehensive information about a public identity but can provide links to other systems where such information is held.

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/IEC 7064, *Information technology — Security techniques — Check character systems*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1
party
natural person or legal person, whether or not incorporated, or a group of either

3.2
registrant
party (3.1) that requests an ISNI from the Registration Authority

3.3
public identity
identity of a **party** (3.1) or a fictional character that is or was presented to the public

3.4
name
character string by which a **public identity** (3.3) is or was commonly referenced

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4 Structure and syntax of the ISNI

4.1 An ISNI shall consist of 16 digits. It shall consist of two components:

a) 15 decimal digits, and

b) a check character.

4.2 An ISNI shall consist of a “dumb” number, of which no meaning shall be embedded in, conveyed by or imputed to any part or subset of the number.

4.3 When an ISNI is written, printed or otherwise presented in a human-readable format:

a) it shall be preceded by the letters ISNI, separated from the identifier by a space, and

b) the 16 digits shall be displayed as four blocks of four digits, with each block separated from the next by a space.

EXAMPLE ISNI 1422 4586 3573 0476

The characters “ISNI” and the space characters shall not be considered to form part of the ISNI.

4.4 The check character may be either a decimal digit or the character “X” and shall be calculated using the preceding 15 decimal digits in accordance with the ISO/IEC 7064, MOD11-2 algorithm, as described in Annex A.

5 Allocation of an ISNI

Annex B gives the principles for the allocation and use of an ISNI.

6 Administration of the ISNI system

The ISNI system shall be administered by the Registration Authority of this International Standard, hereafter referred to as the ISNI Registration Authority.

The ISNI Registration Authority shall be responsible for defining the system architecture supporting the ISNI.

The principal tasks of the ISNI Registration Authority are outlined in Annex C.

7 Association of an ISNI with ISNI metadata

An ISNI shall be associated with ISNI metadata (see Annex D) about the public identity it identifies by means of a register. The ISNI Registration Authority shall be responsible for the maintenance of this register.

8 Association of an ISNI with other identifiers

The relationship of an ISNI with other identifiers is described in Annex E.

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