

Guide to

Design and use of savings books with magnetic stripes for information interchange

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by the Information Systems Technology Standards Policy Committee (IST/-) to Technical Committee IST/17, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association for Payment Clearing Services
- British Federation of Printing Machinery and Supplies Ltd.
- British Photographic Association
- British Printing Industries Federation
- British Tape Industry Association
- British Telecommunications plc
- Building Societies' Association
- Business Equipment and Information Technology Association
- Department of Trade and Industry (National Physical Laboratory)
- Electronic Components Industry Federation
- GAMBICA (BEAMA Ltd.)
- Her Majesty's Stationery Office
- Home Office
- Institute of Data Processing Management
- International Electronic Publishing Research Centre Ltd.
- National Girobank
- Railway Industry Association of Great Britain

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Information Systems Technology Standards Policy Committee, was published under the authority of the Board of BSI and comes into effect on 30 November 1990

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Contents

	Page
Committees responsible	Inside front cover
National foreword	ii
0 Introduction	1
1 Scope and field of application	1
2 References	1
3 Definitions	1
4 Location of magnetic stripe	2
5 Area of magnetic material	2
6 Requirements and testing	2
7 Operating environment	4
8 Recording characteristics	5
9 Character coding and character set	5
10 Error recognition	5
Figure 1 — General location of magnetic stripe on savingsbooks	2
Figure 2 — Minimum area of magnetic material	3
Figure 3 — Area free of irregularities	4
Figure 4 — Saturation curve of reference medium and tolerance area	4
Table — Character set and coding	5
Publication(s) referred to	Inside back cover

National foreword

This British Standard has been prepared under the direction of the Information Systems Technology Standards Policy Committee (IST/-). It is the UK implementation of, and is identical to, ISO 8484:1987 "*Magnetic stripes on savingsbooks*", published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), except that the title of the British Standard differs in order to more accurately reflect the actual contents of the text, taking into account also the features identified in the paragraphs below (headed "Special attention").

This standard implements the international text without change for the reasons given below (see "Reasons for implementation"), even though particular attention is drawn. (see "Special attention") to some features that may need special consideration when this standard is being used. (UK participation in future development, revision or amendment of the International Standard will include requests for attention to these points.)

The UK actively participated in the development of the International Standard through BSI Technical Committee IST/17 and fully approved publication of the International Standard.

The information provided is considered sufficient to act in the UK as a basis for the design and use of savings books of the types covered by the International Standard.

There are no plans at present to supplement this British Standard with any additional guidance, and any comments or enquiries on the International Standard or its application should be addressed to the Secretary to IST/17 at the BSI headquarters.

Reasons for implementation

- a) Because information technology equipment, services and systems tend to be, and generally need to be, designed, purchased and used in a world-wide context IST/- policy is to agree, wherever possible, standards at international level and not to prepare unique national standards. At the time of its approval, the text of the International Standard was considered to be the best that could be achieved, taking into account both the needs of the "market place" and the "state of the art" in this subject area, and the International Standardization process.
- b) Further development of the international text at international level has been accorded relatively low priority in relation to other projects in the same international committee.
- c) Publication of British Standards corresponding to the International Standards in which IST/- resources were invested will ensure that the BSI Catalogue becomes, and then remains, a comprehensive first source of information for UK users of information technology equipment and services about the availability of International Standards on information technology subjects. In turn, this will facilitate UK use of, and access to, those standards.

Special attention Special attention is drawn to the following features of the International Standard that, ideally, require further consideration at international level, but it is emphasized that these features do not prevent use of this standard as a set of basic guidelines and, with appropriate care, products can be effectively standardized. Users of this British Standard, however, might need supplementary information on these features from the BSI Technical Committee or from experts in the field.

(Note that, whilst agreements between individual trading or communicating partners can be made, and might suffice, additional care might be needed to avoid creating agreements that differ only slightly between different parties.)

- a) Clause 2 includes ISO 7811-5, but there is no direct reference in the international text to that standard, only an indirect reference in the note to clause 5.

- b) Clause 2 includes TAPPI T489 os-76, but it is understood that this has now been superseded by TAPPI T489 OM-86.
- c) One or more of precise criteria, methods of test and test equipment are not described for several requirements, for example, those given in 6.1 or 6.2. If testing is carried out by different agencies care might be needed, to identify the degree of comparability of tests and results. (An ISO text “I.D. cards — Test methods” is in preparation and may lead to additions appropriate to this standard.)
- d) Care might be needed in using test results achieved after conditioning in conformity with clause 6 to project or make any claim about performance over the wider environment described in clause 7. (It might be necessary or advisable to carry out additional tests under the more extreme conditions.)

Cross-references

International Standards	Corresponding British Standards
	BS 7106 <i>Guide to recording technique for information on identification cards</i>
ISO 7811-2:1985	Part 2:1989 <i>Magnetic stripe</i> (Identical)
ISO 7811-5:1985	Part 5:1989 <i>Location of read-write magnetic track — Track 3</i> Identical

The BSI Technical Committee has reviewed the provisions of TAPPI T489 os-76, to which reference is made in the text, and has decided that it is acceptable for use in conjunction with this British Standard [but see item b) of “Special attention”].

Information on the availability of interim ISO documents, as well as up-to-date information on existing and projected British Standards publications in the general area of Information Technology, is included in the “BASIC LIST” and regular Newsletter published as part of the BSI Information Technology Services (BITS) initiative.

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A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 6, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.