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Information and documentation — International standard technical report number (ISRN)

*Information et documentation — Numéro international normalisé des
rapports (ISRN)*



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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.

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.

International Standard ISO 10444 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Presentation, identification and description of documents*.

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Information and documentation — International standard technical report number (ISRN)

1 Scope

This International Standard defines and promotes the use of a standard number (ISRN) for the unique identification of technical reports.

The international standard technical report number (ISRN) specifies a uniform format for the creation of unique, but compatible, numbers used for the identification, organization and location of technical reports.

This International Standard is applicable to both publicly distributed and in-house technical reports including those produced in non-print media.

2 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 indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 3166:1993, *Codes for the representation of names of countries*.

ISO 5966:1982, *Documentation — Presentation of scientific and technical reports*.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definitions apply.

3.1 international standard technical report number (ISRN): Alphanumeric identifier containing a maximum of 36 characters which, when printed or written, is preceded by the letters ISRN; the international standard technical report number serves to uniquely identify a single technical report.

3.2 technical report: Document that describes the results of research, investigations or other studies and which is initially submitted to the person or corporate body for which the investigation was carried out or by which it was sponsored.

NOTE 1 A technical report can be on any subject. Technical reports are not usually produced commercially and are not normally available through commercial booksellers. Technical reports are usually issued irregularly, either as part of a series or as separate monographs.

4 Construction of an international standard technical report number

Whenever an international standard technical report number is written or printed, the letters ISRN shall precede it and shall be separated from it by a space.

An ISRN consists of a maximum of 36 alphanumeric characters¹⁾ which shall be digits (Arabic numerals 0 to 9), uppercase letters of the Latin alphabet and a defined set of symbols. It is divided into three segments and, in addition, an optional local suffix may be appended but it does not form part of the ISRN.

Figure 1 illustrates the structure of the ISRN.

1) These 36 characters include each diagonal slash and hyphen in an international standard technical report number but do not include the letters ISRN which precede it.