

International Standard



6937/1

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Information processing — Coded character sets for text communication — Part 1 : General introduction

Traitement de l'information — Jeux de caractères codés pour la transmission de texte — Partie 1 : Introduction générale

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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 developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been authorized 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 6937/1 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 97, *Information processing systems*, and was circulated to the member bodies in February 1982.

It has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Belgium	Hungary	Romania
Canada	Ireland	South Africa, Rep. of
China	Italy	Spain
Czechoslovakia	Japan	Sweden
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Netherlands	Switzerland
Finland	New Zealand	United Kingdom
France	Norway	USA
Germany, F. R.	Poland	

No member body expressed disapproval of the document.

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Information processing — Coded character sets for text communication —

Part 1 : General introduction

0 Introduction

This International Standard specifies repertoires of graphic characters and control functions, and their coded representations, for use in text communication. It applies to the communication of text in the form of binary-coded representations of graphic characters and control functions, using

- a) public communication networks;
- b) private communication networks;
- c) interchange media such as magnetic tapes and discs.

It is applicable to the communication of text at the coding interface (see 3.5 and annex B).

Although, in general, text (see 3.1) consists of characters and pictures, this International Standard applies only to text made up of characters.

This International Standard consists, at present, of three parts, as follows :

ISO 6937/1, General introduction.

ISO 6937/2, Latin alphabetic and non-alphabetic graphic characters.

ISO 6937/3, Control functions for page-image format (in preparation).

Other parts may be added later.

ISO 6937/2 and ISO 6937/3 may be used either in combination with one another or individually, but they should always be used in combination with this part of ISO 6937.

The specifications are based on the 7-bit coded character set specified in ISO 646, the 7-bit and 8-bit code extension techniques specified in ISO 2022, and the definitions of additional control functions given in ISO 6429.

ISO 6937/1, ISO 6937/2 and ISO 6937/3 have been developed in parallel with CCITT Recommendations S.61, *Character repertoire and coded character sets for the international teletex service* (Geneva, 1980) and S.100, *International information exchange for interactive videotex* (Geneva, 1980). The graphic character repertoire defined in ISO 6937/2 is a superset of the graphic character repertoires defined in CCITT Recommendations S.61 and S.100, and the control function repertoire to be defined in ISO 6937/3 is a superset of the control function repertoire defined in CCITT Recommendation S.61. However, the primary and supplementary sets of graphic characters specified in this International Standard are not identical to those defined in CCITT Recommendations S.61 and S.100 (see ISO 6937/2, annex F). To ensure compatible interworking between the public text communication services defined by the CCITT and terminal equipment communicating text conforming to this International Standard, special attention should be given to the differences between this International Standard and CCITT Recommendations S.61 and S.100.

1 Scope and field of application

This part of ISO 6937 constitutes a general introduction to coded character sets for text communication and, in particular,

- a) defines terms used in this and subsequent parts of ISO 6937;
- b) describes the general structure of the text communication code;
- c) specifies conformance requirements for the coded representation of communicated text at the coding interface.

In addition, it gives, in annexes,

- a) a description of the method used to identify each graphic character and control function defined in this International Standard (annex A);
- b) a description of some general concepts of text communication (annex B);
- c) suggestions for equipment conformance requirements (annex C);
- d) recommendations for fall-back implementations (annex D).