

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO
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Anaesthesia and respiratory care alarm signals —

Part 1: Visual alarm signals

*Signaux d'alarme pour soins d'anesthésie et respiratoires —
Partie 1: Signaux d'alarme visuels*



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Foreword

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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 9703-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 121, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment*, Sub-Committee SC 3, *Lung ventilators and related equipment*.

ISO 9703 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Anaesthesia and respiratory care alarm signals*:

- *Part 1: Visual alarm signals*
- *Part 2: Auditory alarm signals*

(The Introduction gives information about the future ISO 9703-2.)

Annex A of this part of ISO 9703 is for information only.

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Introduction

This International Standard is the result of discussions held over a period of several years in ISO/TC 121. It addresses only the visual aspects of alarms. A working draft that addresses the audible aspects of alarm function in anaesthesia and respiratory care is presently being considered by ISO/TC 121/SC 3. When complete, it will be published as ISO 9703-2.

Medical practice in operating rooms and intensive care areas is increasingly dependent on equipment for observation and treatment of patients. Alarms are frequently used to indicate the patient's physiological status and the functional state of the equipment. The purpose of ISO 9703-1 is to define alarm categories, visual indicators, and degree of urgency. The content of this International Standard was developed with contributions from clinicians, engineers and applied psychologists. The approach taken is intended to rationalize the current situation and to limit the proliferation of different alarms in order to avoid confusion, and to minimize the distraction of hospital staff not directly responsible for devices that are in the alarmed condition.