

ISO

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

ISO RECOMMENDATION R 216

TRIMMED SIZES OF WRITING PAPER
AND CERTAIN CLASSES OF PRINTED MATTER

1st EDITION

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BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 216, *Trimmed Sizes of Writing Paper and Certain Classes of Printed Matter*, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 6, *Paper*, the Secretariat of which is held by the Association Française de Normalisation (AFNOR).

Work on this question by the Technical Committee began in 1958 and led in 1959 to the adoption of a Draft ISO Recommendation.

In November 1959, this Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 330) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. It was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the following Member Bodies:

Austria	India	Sweden
Belgium	Israel	Switzerland
Burma	Japan	Turkey
Chile	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Czechoslovakia	Norway	U.S.S.R.
Denmark	Poland	Yugoslavia
Germany	Portugal	
Greece	Romania	

Two Member Bodies opposed the approval of the Draft:

France Ireland

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in November 1961, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

FOREWORD

In many countries, far more sizes of paper are used than are really necessary. Many of them came into existence under conditions different from those prevailing today, while the origin of others was due to chance. Consequently they do not fulfil the present need for consistency between the sizes of paper and printed matter for various purposes, nor do they meet the many requirements for a coherent relationship between the sizes of paper, printed or not, papermaking, printing and converting machinery and equipment, and storage and filing equipment.

The purpose of this ISO Recommendation is to improve the present position by providing a rationally designed *ISO System* of trimmed sizes which can bring about a reduction in the number of sizes and create more rational, clear and consistent ranges. This will simplify and cheapen ordering, production, use, dispatch and storage and will also provide a sound basis for standardization in related fields.

One of the considerations leading to the present ISO Recommendation was the fact that the standards bodies in the following countries had already adopted this system of sizes in their national standards, and others were known to be using the sizes:

Date of adoption	Countries	Standard No.
1922	Germany	DIN 476
1924	Belgium	NBN 18
1925	Netherlands	NEN 381
1926	Norway	NS 20
1927	Finland	SFS P.I. 1
1929	Switzerland	SNV 10120
1934	U.S.S.R.	GOST 9327
1938	Hungary	MOSz 16
1939	Italy	UNI 923-924
1941	Sweden	SIS 73 01 01
1943	Argentina	IRAM 3001-N.P.
1943	Brazil	—
1947	Spain	UNE 1011
1948	Austria	A 1001
1949	Romania	STAS 570-52
1951	Japan	JIS P 0138
1953	Denmark	DS 910
1953	Czechoslovakia	ČSN 01 0402
1954	Israel	S.I. 117
1954	Portugal	NP-4 and NP-17
1957	India	IS:1064
1957	Poland	PN-55/P-02001
1959	United Kingdom	B.S. 3176

The Universal Postal Union has specified certain of these sizes.