PD CEN/TS 16921:2016

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Personal identification — Borders and law enforcement application profiles for mobile biometric identification systems

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A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 16921:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 224 "Personal identification and related personal devices with secure element, systems, operations and privacy in a multi sectorial environment", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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Introduction

Most countries around the world are provided with identification systems for law enforcement and border control. To be consistent in such deployments and processes, technical documents, guidelines and best practice recommendations are being developed by different groups. However, these documents are primarily focused on Automated Border Control (ABC) systems and the technical and operational issues to be considered when planning and deploying such systems in Europe. There is little guidance covering the circumstances in which identification is not done in a fixed point, or for other purposes that cover any law enforcement application besides fixed ABC. There is a need for guidance for the use of mobile or portable identification capabilities as such systems have special biometrics characteristics: calibration problems, uncontrolled environment, specific biometric security aspects, that have to be considered differently for fixed point solutions.

Law enforcement authorities can use mobile and especially hand-held systems to check person's identity under numerous circumstances, on borders as identity check for border control purposes as well as inside the national borders for standard law enforcement purposes like suspect identity check, police check point control, police swoop, etc. In any of these applications, the mobile system may be able to use identity document, or if not present, to check person's identity using his/her biometrics against date base (local or remote).

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1 Scope

This Technical Specification primarily focuses on biometric aspects of portable verification and identification systems for law enforcement and border control authorities. The recommendations given here will balance the needs of security, ease of access and data protection.

ISO/IEC has published a series of standards dealing with biometric data coding, interfaces, performance tests as well as compliance tests. It is essential for interoperability that all these standards are applied in European deployments. However, ISO/IEC standards do not consider national or regional characteristics; in particular, they do not consider European Union privacy and data protection regulation as well as accessibility and usability requirements.

This Technical Specification extends the ISO standards by emphasizing specific European needs (for example EU data Protection Directive 95/46/EC and European databases access). The Technical Specification systematically discusses issues to be considered when planning, deploying and using portable identity verification systems and gives recommendations for those types of systems that are or will be in use in Europe.

Communication, infrastructure scalability, and security aspects other than those related to biometrics are not considered. This document also does not consider hardware and security requirements of biometric equipment and does not recommend general identification procedures.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

2.1
biometric verification (1:1)
process of confirming a biometric claim through biometric comparison

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382-37]

2.2
biometric identification (1:N)
process of searching against a biometric enrolment database to find and return the biometric reference identifier(s) attributable to a single individual

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382-37]

2.3
transportable
system capable of being carried or moved about. Moving this system may require some specialized procedures

2.4
workstation
system that can be carried by one person from place to place (typically size = suitcase; weight < 15 kg). Usually, once the system is in place subject shall move to it

2.5
hand-held
system that can be operated by handling in one hand (typically size < 30 cm; weight < 1 kg). Usually, controller can move to subject with the system

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