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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Information technology — Data interchange on 12,7 mm 208-track magnetic tape cartridges — DLT 6 format

Technologies de l'information — Échange de données sur cartouches de bande magnétique de 12,7 mm *à 208 pistes — Format DLT 6*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This International Standard was prepared by ECMA (as Standard ECMA-286) and was adopted, under a special “fast-track procedure”, by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, in parallel with its approval by national bodies of ISO and IEC.

Annexes A to G form a normative part of this International Standard. Annexes H to L are for information only.

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Information technology — Data interchange on 12,7 mm 208-track magnetic tape cartridges — DLT 6 format

Section 1 - General

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the physical and magnetic characteristics of a 12,7 mm wide, 208-track magnetic tape cartridge, to enable physical interchangeability of such cartridges between drives. It also specifies the quality of the recorded signals, a format - called Digital Linear Tape 6 (DLT 6) - and a recording method, thereby allowing data interchange between drives. Together with a labelling standard, for instance International Standard ISO 1001 for Magnetic Tape Labelling, it allows full data interchange by means of such magnetic tape cartridges.

2 Conformance

2.1 Magnetic tape cartridges

A magnetic tape cartridge shall be in conformance with this International Standard if it satisfies all mandatory requirements of this Standard. The tape requirements shall be satisfied throughout the extent of the tape.

2.2 Generating systems

A system generating a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be in conformance with this International Standard if all the recordings that it makes on a tape according to 2.1 meet the mandatory requirements of this International Standard.

In addition, a claim of conformance shall state

— whether or not one, or more registered algorithm(s) are implemented within the system, and are able to compress data received from the host prior to collecting the data into blocks, and

— the registered identification number(s) of the implemented compression algorithm(s).

2.3 Receiving systems

A system receiving a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be in conformance with this International Standard if it is able to handle any recording made on a tape according to 2.1.

In addition, it shall

— whether or not one, or more de-compression algorithm(s) are implemented within the system, and are able to be applied to de-compress data prior to making such data available to the host,

— the registered identification number(s) of the implemented compression algorithm(s).

3 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 1001:1986, *Information processing — File structure and labelling of magnetic tapes for information interchange.*

ISO 1302:1992, *Technical drawings — Method of indicating surface texture.*

ISO/IEC 11576:1994, *Information technology — Procedure for the registration of algorithms for the lossless compression of data.*

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