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Information technology — Procedure for registration of escape sequences and coded character sets

*Technologies de l'information — Procédure pour l'enregistrement des
séquences d'échappement et des jeux de caractères codés*

Reference number
ISO/IEC 2375:2003(E)



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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. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. 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 document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 2375 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Coded character sets*.

This first edition of ISO/IEC 2375 cancels and replaces ISO 2375:1985, which has been technically revised.

Introduction

International standard coded character sets have been adopted for the interchange of information between information processing systems and within message transmission systems. However, circumstances occur where applications require characters which are not included in a single international standard character code or which are in a character code which is not an international standard.

Provision for additional characters is made by code extension techniques in which the additional coded character sets are identified by escape sequences. The procedures for code extension and the structure and use of escape sequences are fully documented in ISO/IEC 2022, which defines classes of escape sequences, but does not assign specific meanings to individual escape sequences. Instead, it depends on this standard, ISO/IEC 2375, and the associated International Registry, to assign the meanings.

This International Standard specifies the procedures to be followed in preparing and maintaining a register of specific escape-sequence meanings. The register associates escape sequences with specific coded character sets. The purpose of this register is to inform interested parties about coded character sets already developed and of the specific escape sequences assigned to them.

The publication of the register should promote compatibility in international information interchange and avoid duplication of effort in developing application-oriented coded character sets. Registration provides a standardized identifier for a coded character set, but it is not a procedure to standardize a coded character set. Nevertheless, as a matter apart from registration the coded character set may, but need not, be the subject of an international, national, or other standard. When such a standard is prepared after the registration of an escape sequence, it would be appropriate to specify the escape sequence which identifies the coded character set in the standard itself.

Information technology – Procedure for registration of escape sequences and coded character sets

1 Scope

1.1 This International Standard specifies the procedures to be followed for preparing, maintaining, and publishing a register of escape sequences and of the coded character sets they identify.

1.2 The registration process specified in ISO/IEC 2375 is *not* a procedure for standardization of characters or coded character sets. Organizations that wish ISO and/or IEC to create an international standard for a coded character set or that wish ISO and/or IEC to code additional characters into ISO/IEC 10646 need to follow the ISO/IEC procedures for doing so. In particular,

- Registration of a coded character set according to the procedures specified by this standard implies no commitment by ISO and/or IEC to adopt the coded character set as an ISO/IEC standard.
- The existence of a character in an approved registration does not imply a commitment by ISO and/or IEC to encode that character into ISO/IEC 10646.

1.3 ISO/IEC 2022 describes the escape sequences referenced in this International Standard, except for escape sequences reserved in ISO/IEC 2022 for private use.

1.4 The use of these escape sequences includes code extension, that is, the provision of additional sets of characters, or of additional control functions, in accordance with ISO/IEC 2022.

1.5 An escape sequence registered in accordance with this International Standard serves as an identification of the character, the set of characters, or the control function associated with it in the register.

1.6 The registration itself does not specify the rules in accordance with which a character or character set identified by an escape sequence is to be used. Rather, the registration identifies the documents (for example, standards) which specify such rules.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 646: 1991, *Information technology – ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*

ISO/IEC 2022: 1994, *Information technology – Character code structure and extension techniques*

ISO/IEC 4873: 1991, *Information technology – ISO 8-bit code for information interchange – Structure and rules for implementation*

ISO/IEC 6429: 1992, *Information technology – Control functions for coded character sets*

ISO/IEC 6937: 2001, *Information technology – Coded graphic set for text communication – Latin alphabet*

ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000, *Information technology – Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) – Part 1: Architecture and Basic Multilingual Plane*

ISO/IEC 10646-2: 2001, *Information technology – Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) – Part 2: Supplementary Planes*

ISO/IEC Directives – Procedures for the technical work of ISO/IEC JTC 1

<http://www.jtc1.org/directives/main.htm>