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Information technology — Digital representation of product information —

Part 1:
General requirements

Technologies de l'information — Représentation numérique de l'information produit —

Partie 1: Exigences générales

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html. In the IEC, see www.iec.ch/understanding-standards.

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 31, *Automatic identification and data capture techniques*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 22603 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

Introduction

ISO/IEC 22603 is a multi-part International Standard that establishes the requirements for electronic product labelling. Electronic product labelling is an alternative to having a product's compliance markings and other product information used to communicate product conformance to stated national standards and regulations on the product's nameplate or product label. Electronic product labelling can exist in combination with traditional physical product markings and statements.

Electronic product labelling can be applicable to any type of product.

Product markings and technical statements can communicate product conformance to national standards and regulations. While many products are decreasing in physical size, mandatory requirements for additional product compliance markings and documents are growing, in part because:

— regulators are increasing the required number of product markings and statements on products to designate compliance with the mandatory product regulations;

— third party test or certification organizations are developing registered trademark symbols to be affixed on products that they have tested/certified;

— product conformance to new standards and regulations on domains, such as "Environmental," leads to new categories of product marks and statements;

— a growing number of global regulators each with unique labelling requirements.

The physical limitations to accommodate the proliferation of printed compliance labels and information cause confusion among regulators and end-users. An alternative method using an electronic system to communicate product compliance information, used in conjunction with existing labelling practices or as an alternative to them, allows the regulatory objectives to be achieved with better uniformity of execution, clarity of language, greater flexibility and control.

Some expected benefits include:

— environmental gains from less reducing labelling material usage or wastage from label obsolescence;

— less visual clutter on the product by achieving improved aesthetics and clarity;

— facilitates faster end-user access to relevant information and documents;

— assist determination and enforcement of product regulatory compliance by authorities through immediate data access;

— quickly remedy, prevent or eliminate unnecessary miscommunications associated with product selection and installation criteria;

— greater flexibility in managing the product markings and statements without having a negative impact on product design and innovation;

— reduced costs to manufacturers and faster parts-to-market cycles.

Information technology — Digital representation of product information —

Part 1:
General requirements

1 Scope

This document establishes the general requirements for electronic product labelling which can be applicable to all types of product regardless of industry.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 19762, *Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture (AIDC) techniques — Harmonized vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 19762 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
electronic product label
electronically stored and displayed compliance markings, statements and other product information using a *Web address* (3.5), a *machine-readable code* (3.2) and/or e-Label

3.2
machine-readable code
AIDC data carrier placed on the product, that contains information used to establish a relationship between the physical object and the data sources.

3.3
manufacturer
natural or legal person with responsibility for the design, production, packaging and labelling of a product and markets that product under its name or trademark

3.4
website
collection of logically connected webpages managed as a single entity and accessed through the same URL

3.5
Web address
Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) for a *website* (3.4)

4   Technical content

4.1   Maintenance responsibility

4.1.1   The responsible party for a product shall be accountable and responsible for the assurance of a working link between the product and the electronic product labelling to retrieve the electronic label.

4.1.2   The electronically stored and displayed information and active links shall be maintained for at least the useful life of the product. Useful product life is as defined by the responsible party and may be stated in the installation information. It is presupposed that retention and maintenance of the electronically stored information shall be, for a period, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. This document does not override any other regulations governing the life of product information.

4.1.3   At a minimum, the information applicable to the product at the time of its shipment shall be maintained and accessible. In subsequent more product-focused parts to this document, the information shall provide clarity of conformity of the product to specified requirements to which any attestation or declaration refers. It shall also make clear who is responsible for that conformity and declaration and fulfil maintenance for assuring continuity.

4.1.4   The information displayed in the electronic product label may be updated during the life of the product to maintain continuity with changes to product certifications or other information. If updates are made, the details of each update shall be maintained electronically. The update archive may be maintained separately from the electronic product label. If the electronic product label has been updated, it shall include an indication that an update has been made and instructions as to how to access the update archive.

4.2   Access instructions

4.2.1   Instructions shall be provided as to how to access the information within the electronic product label.

4.2.2   Instructions shall accompany the product and may be provided using one of the following methods: affixed to the product, on the product packaging, on product packaging material (such as bags in which the device may be packed) within the product; or with the product documentation (such as on a sheet, in the manual or other packaging inserts, etc.).

4.2.3   Alternately, the access information may be available on the product related website with instructions on how to access the website provided in the packaging material.

4.3   Structure and content

Information contained in an electronic product label shall be displayed in the following six-part structure as per Table 1, incorporating the elements indicated as applicable. The exact data elements of each category are not defined, but when provided the data should be displayed in the following grid-type order.