
**Management of terminology
resources — Terminology
databases —**

**Part 1:
Design**

*Gestion des ressources terminologiques — Bases de données
terminologiques —*

Partie 1: Conception





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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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 ISO documents 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).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and terminology*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Management of terminology resources*.

This first edition of ISO 26162-1, together with ISO 26162-2, cancels and replaces ISO 26162:2012, which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- the document has been split into parts. The first part is focusing on the design of terminology database design, the second part on the development of terminology management systems;
- all references to generic software design principles and specific use cases have been removed.

A list of all parts of the ISO 26162 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

Introduction

Terminologies are the totality of concepts in given subject fields represented by terms and other designations and described by using additional terminological data. In general, these data are organized in structured terminology databases and are usually manipulated in specific software applications called terminology management systems. Terminology databases usually vary with regard to their underlying data models and consist of different sets of data categories, while terminology management systems generally differ depending on their functionality and the platform they are designed for.

The ISO 26162 series gives guidance on designing terminology databases and on essential terminology management system features. The series can also be used to evaluate the conformance and suitability of terminology databases and terminology management systems.

Management of terminology resources — Terminology databases —

Part 1: Design

1 Scope

This document specifies general, i.e. implementation- and use-case-independent terminology database design principles to enable maximum efficiency and quality in terminology work. Thus, this document supports creating, processing, and using high quality terminology. The intended audiences of this document are terminologists, translators, interpreters, technical communicators, language planners, subject field experts, and terminology management system developers.

This document describes a maximum approach, i.e. terminology database design for distributed, multilingual terminology management. It can also be used for designing smaller solutions.

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 704, *Terminology work — Principles and methods*

ISO 1087, *Terminology work — Vocabulary*

ISO 12620, *Management of terminology resources — Data category specifications*

ISO 16642:2017, *Computer applications in terminology — Terminological markup framework*

ISO 23185, *Assessment and benchmarking of terminological resources — General concepts, principles and requirements*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 1087 and the following apply.

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

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 Concepts

3.1.1

object

anything perceivable or conceivable

Note 1 to entry: Objects can be material (e.g. an engine, a sheet of paper, a diamond), immaterial (e.g. a conversion ratio, a project plan) or imagined (e.g. a unicorn, a scientific hypothesis).