

TECHNICAL REPORT

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Standard sizing systems for clothes

Systèmes de tailles standards pour vêtements



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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 main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. In exceptional circumstances a technical committee may propose the publication of a Technical Report of one of the following types:

- type 1, when the required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts;
- type 2, when the subject is still under technical development or where for any other reason there is the future but not immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard;
- type 3, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example).

Technical Reports of types 1 and 2 are subject to review within three years of publication, to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards. Technical Reports of type 3 do not necessarily have to be reviewed until the data they provide are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

ISO/TR 10652, which is a Technical Report of type 2, was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 133, *Sizing systems and designations for clothes*.

This document is being issued in the type 2 Technical Report series of publications (according to subclause G.6.2.2 of part 1 of the IEC/ISO Directives) as a "prospective standard for provisional application" in the field of sizing systems for clothes because there is an urgent need for guidance on how standards in this field should be used to meet an identified need.

This document is not to be regarded as an "International Standard". It is proposed for provisional application so that information and experience of its use in practice may be gathered. Comments on the content of this document should be sent to the ISO Central Secretariat.

A review of this type 2 Technical Report will be carried out not later than two years after its publication with the options of: extension for another two years; conversion into an International Standard; or withdrawal.

Annexes A, B and C of this Technical Report are for information only.

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Introduction

In order to size mass-produced clothes, the body size of the intended wearer has to be defined and identified with the nearest size on a table of standard sizes. In this garment-related system, the body size is defined by scales of the appropriate control dimensions, using preferred numbers. A good degree of standardization is achieved by the establishment of open-ended size scales with fixed intervals in at least the primary control dimension for each garment type. Where body shape is characterized by two girth control dimensions, the first is placed on a fixed scale, while the second (the dependent variable) is not. The nearest whole number in the survey data for that dimension is used for purposes of size designation.

The processing of body measurement data as described in this Technical Report results in the grouping of body sizes appropriate to the population concerned. Garment size tables are readily compiled from this information. It is necessary to use an open system with inbuilt flexibility, because body shape and proportions for any one population group differ significantly.

The frequency distribution of standard body sizes is a useful means of determining which body sizes are applicable to the bulk of the population. This Technical Report does not take into account the age of the subject, mainly because age is not a dimension used for fitting clothing. However, it is recognized that body shape is affected by age. Consequently systems may need to be adjusted, particularly in the case of waist girth for women's wear for which body shape is defined by dimensions other than the waist girth.

The sizing systems presented in annexes A to C are exemplary only, being mostly derived from regional survey data.

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Standard sizing systems for clothes

Section 1: General

1.1 Scope

This Technical Report establishes a body sizing system to be used for compiling standard garment sizes for infants (Section 2), men and boys (Section 3) and women and girls (Section 4). Garment dimensions are not contained in this Technical Report.

1.2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Technical Report. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this Technical Report are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 3636: 1977, *Size designation of clothes — Men's and boys' outerwear garments.*

ISO 3637: 1977, *Size designation of clothes — Women's and girls' outerwear garments.*

ISO 3638: 1977, *Size designation of clothes — Infants' garments.*

ISO 4415: 1981, *Size designation of clothes — Men's and boys' underwear, nightwear and shirts.*

ISO 4416: 1981, *Size designation of clothes — Women's and girls' underwear, nightwear, foundation garments and shirts.*

ISO 4417: 1977, *Size designation of clothes — Headwear.*

ISO 4418: 1978, *Size designation of clothes — Gloves.*

ISO 5971: 1981, *Size designation of clothes — Pantyhose.*

ISO 7070: 1982, *Size designation of clothes — Hosiery.*

ISO 8559: 1989, *Garment construction and anthropometric surveys — Body dimensions.*

1.3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Technical Report, the following definitions apply.

1.3.1 control dimensions: Those body measurements in centimetres, on which a sizing system is built, and that are used to assign an appropriately sized garment to a wearer.

1.3.2 secondary dimensions: Those body measurements, other than control measurements, that are used to define garment size.

1.3.3 size scale: An open-ended control dimensional scale of preferred numbers and fixed intervals.

1.3.4 sizing system: A table of body dimensions including control and secondary dimensions, appropriate to one garment type, to which fitting and fashion tolerances are added to provide garment size tables.

1.3.5 size designation ('Mondoform system'): The official method of body size labelling on a garment, either by pictogram or by indicating the appropriate control dimensions and their numerical values. A component element of a sizing system.

1.3.6 body type: An indication of body shape as defined by the drop value.

1.3.7 drop value:

(1) Women: the difference, expressed in centimetres, between the hip girth and the bust girth.

(2) Men: the difference, expressed in centimetres, between the chest girth and the waist girth.

1.3.8 infant: A male or female person of height 104 cm or less.