
**Graphic technology — File format for
quality control and metadata —**

**Part 1:
Print requirements eXchange (PRX)**

*Technologie graphique — Format de fichier pour le contrôle qualité
et les métadonnées —*

Partie 1: Print requirements eXchange (PRX)



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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 130, *Graphic technology*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 20616 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

The ISO 20616 series defines standard XML schemas designed to enable the digital exchange of print quality data and metadata between trading partners within the graphic arts supply chain. In the past, a number of different non-standard data formats have been used to communicate print quality metrics. It is a general observation that many of these existing non-standard data formats describe similar types of information. Existing standard data formats cover either too much or too little scope to address industry requirements. Hence, there is an industry need for a single, standard, concise set of data formats for the communication of print quality.

Each part of the ISO 20616 series is intended to stand alone, but may be used together, if that option is chosen. The goal of ISO 20616 is to maintain the degree of flexibility required by print buyers for all kinds of print generated for all purposes from any print device while minimizing the uncertainty of the data exchanged.

ISO 20616-1, PRX, is intended to facilitate the one-way digital transmission of customer expectations (i.e. print quality requirements) for a print job or class of print jobs, from a print buyer to print service providers and other relevant stakeholders. PRX is not designed for ordering print jobs, but rather to establish a buyer's policy for expected quality. PRX is designed to enable the print buyer to specify references, tolerances, scoring/grading scales and the mathematical formula to be employed by the print buyer to assess the quality of their printed materials. PRX may also be used communicate a print buyer's compliance requirements.

Some portions of ISO 20616-1 are available as electronic files found at <https://standards.iso.org/iso/20616/-1/ed-1/en/>:

- ISO-TC130_N4211_CD__20616-1_3_Electronic_Files.zip (all 20616-1 support documents);
- ISO20616-1prx.xsd;
- ISO20616-1prx_lines.pdf (printable PRX schema with reference lines numbered);
- ISO20616-1SchemaDoc.pdf (detailed schema documentation with graphics);
- PRX_MasterSampleA.pdf (printable sample with reference lines numbered);
- PRX_MasterSampleA.prx (parsable sample);
- PRX_MasterSampleB.pdf (printable sample with reference lines numbered);
- PRX_MasterSampleB.prx (parsable sample);
- PRX_MasterSampleC.pdf (printable sample with reference lines numbered);
- PRX_MasterSampleC.prx (parsable sample).

Graphic technology — File format for quality control and metadata —

Part 1: Print requirements eXchange (PRX)

1 Scope

This document specifies an extensible file format in conformity with W3C Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0, for the exchange of print quality requirements data and metadata between print quality control applications including, but not limited to, print quality management systems.

This document is not intended for automating the loading of print requirement goals into the quality control systems employed by print quality service providers.

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 17972-3, *Graphic technology — Colour data exchange format (CxF/X) — Part 3: Output target data (CxF/X-3)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions 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

basis of calculation

formula by which print quality is calculated by the *print buyer* (3.3)

3.2

grade

print buyer's (3.3) evaluation of the overall level of print quality for a printed item

3.3

print buyer

name of the customer or entity purchasing printing services and products

3.4

rank

integer value assigned to a print quality *grade* (3.2) or *score* (3.5) based on a scale of zero or more, where the higher the integer, the better the print quality