

**Vöötkodeerimine. Sümbolispetsifikatsioonid.  
"Code 16K"**

Bar coding - Symbology specifications - "Code 16K"

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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**ICS 35.040**

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EUROPEAN STANDARD  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
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Descriptors: data processing, character recognition, optical recognition, graphic characters, alphanumeric character sets, bar codes, definitions, symbols, characteristics, dimensions, dimensional tolerances, algorithms

English version

Barcode - Symbology specifications - "Code 16K"

Code à barres - Spécifications des symbologies - "Code 16K"

Strichcodierung - Symbollogiespezifikation - "Code 16K"

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels

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## Foreword

This European Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 225 "Bar coding", the secretariat of which is held by NNI.

This document shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by August 1998, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 1998.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Organisations contributing to the development of the standard include:

- AIM Europe (Automatic Identification Manufacturers)

## Introduction

The technology of bar coding is based on the recognition of patterns encoded in bars and spaces of defined dimensions. There are a number of methods of encoding information in bar code form, known as symbologies, and the rules defining the translation of characters into bar and space patterns and other essential features are known as the symbology specifications. "Code 16K" is one such symbology.

Previously, symbology specifications have been developed and published by a number of different private organisations, resulting in certain instances in conflicting requirements for certain symbologies.

Manufacturers of bar code equipment and users of bar code technology require publicly available standard symbology specifications to which they can refer when developing equipment and application standards.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard

- specifies the requirements for the multi row bar code symbology known as "Code 16K";
- specifies "Code 16K" symbology characteristics, data character encodation, dimensions, tolerances, decoding algorithms and user-defined application parameters;
- describes a subset of "Code 16K" assigned to EAN International.

## 2 Normative References

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed below. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of the publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

EN 796	Bar Coding - Symbology Identifiers
EN 841	Bar Coding - Symbology Specifications - Format Description
EN 1571	Bar Coding - Data Identifiers
prEN 1556	Bar Coding - Terminology
EN 1635	Bar Coding - Test Specifications for Bar code Symbols
ISO 646:1991	Information technology - ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange
ISO 8859-1:1987	Information Processing 8-bit Single Byte coded Graphic Character Sets -Part 1 (Latin Alphabet Number 1)
"General EAN Specifications" (EAN International, Brussels, 1994)	

## 3 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard the definitions of prEN 1556 and the following apply:

**3.1 guard bar:** An additional bar used to separate the trailing space of a start character from the leading space of the first symbol character in a row.

NOTE: This definition is specific to "Code 16K", to be consistent with previously published specifications for the symbology.

**3.2 mode character:** The symbol character in the first position after the start character in the first row of a symbol, used to define the initial code set and any implied special characters.

**3.3 separator bar:** A horizontal bar separating two rows of a symbol or abutting the top or bottom of the first or last row respectively.