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Alphabetical ordering of multilingual terminological and lexicographical data represented in the Latin alphabet

Mise en ordre alphabétique des données lexicographiques et terminologiques multilingues représentées dans l'alphabet latin

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Contents

Page

Foreword iv

Introduction v

1 Scope 1

2 Normative references 1

3 Terms and definitions 2

4 Preparatory procedures 2

5 First ordering level 3

5.1 First-ordering-level values 3

5.2 First-ordering-level sequence 3

5.3 Equivalence between special Latin letters and basic letters 4

6 Second ordering level 4

6.1 Second-ordering-level values 4

6.2 Special Latin letters and letters with diacritical marks 4

7 Third ordering level 6

7.1 Third-ordering-level values 6

7.2 Ordering according to capitalization 6

8 Fourth ordering level 6

8.1 Fourth-ordering-level values 6

8.2 Ordering according to special characters 6

Annex A (normative) **Word-by-word ordering** 7

Annex B (informative) **Special rules for lexicographical and terminological ordering** 9

Annex C (informative) **Ordering rules for chemical names** 10

Annex D (informative) **Character repertoire of the Latin alphabet** 12

Annex E (informative) **Languages using the Latin alphabet** 19

Annex F (informative) **Alphabetical sequences and character repertoires** 22

Annex G (normative) **Formal description of the rules of the main body of this International Standard** 32

Bibliography 38

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 12199 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Terminology (principles and coordination),* Subcommittee SC 2, *Layout of vocabularies.*

It complements other International Standards prepared by ISO/TC 37, such as ISO 10241:1992, *International terminology standards — Preparation and layout* and ISO 12200:1999, *Computer applications in terminology — Machine-readable terminology interchange format (MARTIF) — Negotiated interchange*.

Annexes A and G form a normative part of this International Standard. Annexes B to F are for information only.

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Introduction

In the development of international terminologies, both in printed form and in databases, it is essential to have uniform and internationally recognized rules for the alphabetical ordering of terminological and lexicographical data, to make these terminologies more easily accessible for the users. In addition, it will facilitate the interchange of terminological and lexicographical data.

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Alphabetical ordering of multilingual terminological and lexicographical data represented in the Latin alphabet

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the sequence of characters to be used in the alphabetical ordering of multilingual terminological and lexicographical data (terms, term elements, or words) represented in the Latin alphabet. Character sets of languages represented in the Latin alphabet are taken into account insofar as terminological or lexicographical data have been recorded. Character sets used in internationally standardized transliteration into Latin script are also taken into account.

The sequence of alphabetical characters given is intended for multilingual purposes only and is not intended to affect the alphabetical order of any specific language.

The main part of this International Standard specifies letter-by-letter ordering of character strings. Normative annex A treats word-by-word ordering, which is a widely used alternative to this system.

Informative annex B gives two additional rules that may be useful for lexicographical and terminological ordering.

Informative annex C gives ordering rules for chemical names.

Informative annex D lists the character repertoire of the Latin alphabet.

Informative annex E lists languages using the Latin alphabet.

Informative annex F gives alphabetical sequences derived from the sequence specified in this International Standard for a number of languages that use the Latin alphabet.

Normative annex G gives a formal description of the rules laid down in the main part of this International Standard conforming with ISO/IEC 14651.

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2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 1087:1990, *Terminology — Vocabulary.*

ISO 1087-1:—[1)], *Terminology work — Vocabulary — Part 1: Theory and application.*

ISO 1087-2:2000, *Terminology work — Vocabulary — Part 2: Computer applications.*

ISO/IEC 10646-1:1993, *Information technology — Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) — Part 1: Architecture and Basic Multilingual Plane.*

ISO/IEC 14651:—[1)], *Information technology — International string ordering — Method for comparing character strings and description of a default tailorable ordering.*

1) To be published.

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