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**Information technology — Multimedia  
content description interface —**

**Part 9:  
Profiles and levels**

*Technologies de l'information — Interface de description du contenu  
multimédia —*

*Partie 9: Profils et niveaux*

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Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11  
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# Contents

Page

Foreword.....	v
Introduction .....	vi
1 Scope .....	1
1.1 General.....	1
1.2 Organization of the document.....	1
2 Normative references .....	1
3 Definition of MPEG-7 Profiling .....	2
3.1 General.....	2
3.2 Definitions .....	2
3.2.1 Profile.....	2
3.2.2 Level.....	2
3.2.3 MPEG-7 Schema .....	2
3.2.4 Description profile .....	2
3.2.5 Description level .....	3
3.2.6 Profile schema .....	3
3.3 Conventions .....	3
3.3.1 Naming and identification of profiles .....	3
3.3.2 Specification of profiles and levels.....	3
4 Description Profiles .....	4
4.1 General.....	4
4.2 Simple Metadata Profile (SMP) and Level .....	4
4.2.1 Application Areas (INFORMATIVE) .....	4
4.2.2 Functionality (INFORMATIVE) .....	4
4.2.3 Tools in the Profile (NORMATIVE) .....	6
4.2.4 Levels for SMP (NORMATIVE) .....	9
4.3 User Description Profile (UDP) and Level .....	9
4.3.1 Application Areas (INFORMATIVE) .....	9
4.3.2 Functionality (INFORMATIVE) .....	9
4.3.3 Tools in the Profile (NORMATIVE) .....	10
4.3.4 Levels for UDP (NORMATIVE) .....	13
4.4 Core Description Profile (CDP) and Level .....	13
4.4.1 Application Areas (INFORMATIVE) .....	13
4.4.2 Functionality (INFORMATIVE) .....	13
4.4.3 Tools in the Profile (NORMATIVE) .....	13
4.4.4 Levels for CDP (NORMATIVE) .....	19
5 MPEG-7 Profile URI Values and Schema Namespace.....	19
6 MPEG-7 Profile Schemas .....	19

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO/IEC 15938-9 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 29, *Coding of audio, picture, multimedia and hypermedia information*.

ISO/IEC 15938 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Multimedia content description interface*:

- *Part 1: Systems*
- *Part 2: Description definition language*
- *Part 3: Visual*
- *Part 4: Audio*
- *Part 5: Multimedia description schemes*
- *Part 6: Reference software*
- *Part 7: Conformance testing*
- *Part 8: Extraction and use of MPEG-7 descriptions*
- *Part 9: Profiles and levels*
- *Part 10: Schema definition*
- *Part 11: MPEG-7 profile schemas*

## Introduction

This International Standard, also known as "Multimedia Content Description Interface," provides a standardized set of technologies for describing multimedia content. It addresses a broad spectrum of multimedia applications and requirements by providing a metadata system for describing the features of multimedia content.

The following are specified in this International Standard:

**Description schemes (DS)** describe entities or relationships pertaining to multimedia content. Description schemes specify the structure and semantics of their components, which may be Description Schemes, descriptors, or datatypes.

**Descriptors (D)** describe features, attributes, or groups of attributes of multimedia content.

**Datatypes** are the basic reusable datatypes employed by description schemes and descriptors

**Systems tools** support delivery of descriptions, multiplexing of descriptions with multimedia content, synchronization, file format, and so forth.

This International Standard is subdivided into 10 parts:

**Part 1 – Systems:** specifies the tools for preparing descriptions for efficient transport and storage, compressing descriptions, and allowing synchronization between content and descriptions.

**Part 2 – Description definition language:** specifies the language for defining the International Standard set of description tools (DSs, Ds, and datatypes) and for defining new description tools.

**Part 3 – Visual:** specifies the description tools pertaining to visual content.

**Part 4 – Audio:** specifies the description tools pertaining to audio content.

**Part 5 – Multimedia description schemes:** specifies the generic description tools pertaining to multimedia including audio and visual content.

**Part 6 – Reference software:** provides a software implementation of the International Standard.

**Part 7 – Conformance testing:** specifies the guidelines and procedures for testing conformance of implementations of the International Standard.

**Part 8 – Extraction and use of MPEG-7 descriptions:** provides guidelines and examples of the extraction and use of descriptions.

**Part 9 – Profiles and levels:** provides guidelines and standard profiles.

**Part 10 – Schema definition:** specifies the schema using description definition language.

**Part 11 – Profile Schemas:** listing of profile schemas using description definition language.

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# Information technology — Multimedia content description interface —

## Part 9: Profiles and levels

### 1 Scope

#### 1.1 General

This part of 15938-9 collects standard profiles and levels for MPEG-7, specified across all ISO/IEC 15938 parts. While all parts are potential candidates for profiling, current profiles concentrate on the description definition language [ISO/IEC 15938-2], visual [ISO/IEC 15938-3], audio [ISO/IEC 15938-4] and multimedia description schemes [ISO/IEC 15938-5] which are based on the namespace versioning defined in schema definition [ISO/IEC 15938-10].

#### 1.2 Organization of the document

ISO/IEC 15938-9 provides six clauses. Clause 1 sets out the scope of this document while Clause 2 lists the normative and informative document references. Clause 3 provides definitions for terms and Clause 4 provides the informative part of description for application areas and functionality with the normative part of table for tools used and their constraints for each of the standard profiles and levels. Clause 5 provides a table of URI values for each standard profile, while Annex A contains a collection of profile schema for each of the standard profiles.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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/IEC 15938-2, *Information technology — Multimedia content description interface — Part 2: Description definition language*

ISO/IEC 15938-3, *Information technology — Multimedia content description interface — Part 3: Visual*

ISO/IEC 15938-4, *Information technology — Multimedia content description interface — Part 4: Audio*

ISO/IEC 15938-5, *Information technology — Multimedia content description interface — Part 5: Multimedia description schemes*

ISO/IEC 15938-10, *Information technology — Multimedia content description interface — Part 10: Schema definition*

**Note:** The documents are maintained by the W3C (<http://www.w3.org>). The relevant documents can be obtained as follows:

*Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (Second Edition)*, 6 October 2000, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/REC-xml-20001006>

*XML Schema: W3C Recommendation*, 2 May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/XML/Schema>

*XML Schema Part 0: Primer*, W3C Recommendation, 2 May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-0/>

*XML Schema Part 1: Structures*, W3C Recommendation, 2 May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/>

*XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes*, W3C Recommendation 2 May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/>

*xPath, XML Path Language*, W3C Recommendation, 16 November 1999, <http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-xpath-19991116>.

*Canonical XML Version 1.0*, W3C Recommendation 15 March 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xml-c14n-20010315>

### **3 Definition of MPEG-7 Profiling**

#### **3.1 General**

For ISO/IEC 15938, there may be different kinds of profiles. Currently, only description profiles are defined in this part. It is conceivable that other types (dimensions) of profiles are defined in the future, and that it would be possible to combine profiles from such different dimensions into a single conformant application or device.

Description profiles define subsets of description tools across the different parts of ISO/IEC 15938. This document exclusively contains description profiles. Relevant terms related to this document are defined below.

#### **3.2 Definitions**

##### **3.2.1 Profile**

A profile is a subset of tools defined in ISO/IEC 15938, providing a particular set of functionalities for one or more classes of applications.

##### **3.2.2 Level**

A level is a defined set of constraints on a profile to limit the complexity of the profile.

##### **3.2.3 MPEG-7 Schema**

Parts 2 (DDL), 3 (Visual), 4 (Audio) and 5 (MDS) of ISO/IEC 15938 define description tools: descriptors, description schemes and data types. The combined syntax of these description tools, across Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 of ISO/IEC 15938, forms a schema in the XML Schema sense. This schema is defined by Part 10 (Schema Definition) of ISO/IEC 15938, as are the different versions of this schema. This schema is defined in a namespace, identified by a URN value. For example, the value "urn:mpeg:mpeg7:schema:2001" is used for the namespace of version 1 of the ISO/IEC 15938-10 schema. The semantics of description tools is described in Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 of ISO/IEC 15938.

##### **3.2.4 Description profile**

A *description profile* provides a means of selecting and constraining description tools from the ISO/IEC 15938-10 schema, thereby constraining conforming descriptions in their content. A description profile generally limits the use of description tools to subsets of the description tools defined in ISO/IEC 15938. The description tools in a description profile support a set of functionalities for a certain class of applications.