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Ergonomics of human-system interaction - Part 920:  
Guidance on tactile and haptic interactions (ISO  
9241-920:2009)

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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ICS 13.180, 35.180

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EUROPEAN STANDARD  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN ISO 9241-920

July 2016

ICS 13.180; 35.180

English Version

Ergonomics of human-system interaction - Part 920:  
Guidance on tactile and haptic interactions (ISO 9241-  
920:2009)

Ergonomie de l'interaction homme-système - Partie  
920: Lignes directrices relatives aux interactions  
tactiles et haptiques (ISO 9241-920:2009)

Ergonomie der Mensch-System-Interaktion - Teil 920:  
Anleitung zu taktilen und haptischen Interaktionen  
(ISO 9241-920:2009)

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## European foreword

The text of ISO 9241-920:2009 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 159 "Ergonomics" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 9241-920:2016 by Technical Committee CEN/TC 122 "Ergonomics" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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## Contents

Page

<b>Foreword .....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>1 Scope.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Applying ISO 9241-920.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.1 Recommendations .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.2 Evaluation of products.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Tactile/haptic inputs, outputs, and/or combinations .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.1 General guidance on tactile/haptic inputs, outputs and/or combinations .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.1.1 Optimizing performance .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.1.2 Providing accessible information on tactile/haptic elements.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.1.3 Providing contextual information .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.1.4 Using consistent labels .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.1.5 Identifying system state.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1.6 Minimizing fatigue .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1.7 Providing alternative input methods .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1.8 Maintaining coherence between modalities .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1.9 Combining modalities .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.1.10 Presenting realistic experiences .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.1.11 Isolation of individual interface elements.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.2 Intentional individualization .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.2.1 Enabling users to change modalities .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.2.2 Enabling force feedback override.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.2.3 Enabling users to individualise tactile parameters .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.3 Unintentional user perceptions .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.3.1 Limiting acoustic output of tactile/haptic display.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.3.2 Limiting heat gain of contact surface.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.3.3 Avoiding sensory adaptation .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.3.4 Recovering from sensory adaptation.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.3.5 Avoiding unintended perceptual illusions.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.3.6 Preventing temporal masking .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4 Attributes of tactile and haptic encoding of information .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1 High level guidance on tactile/haptic encoding of information.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1.1 Using familiar tactile/haptic patterns .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1.2 Making tactile/haptic encoding obvious .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1.3 Conformity to user expectations .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1.4 Using sensory substitution .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1.5 Using appropriate spatial addressability and resolution .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1.6 Using tactile apparent location .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1.7 Using distal body parts for high spatial resolution .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1.8 Using higher addressability for trained users.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1.9 Using tactile apparent motion .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1.10 Preventing spatial masking .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4.2 Guidance on specific tactile/haptic attributes for encoding information.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4.2.1 Selecting dimensions for encoding information.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4.2.2 Discriminating between attribute values .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4.2.3 Limiting the number of attribute values .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4.2.4 Combining properties .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4.2.5 Limiting complexity .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4.2.6 Encoding by object shape .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4.2.7 Encoding information by temporal pattern.....</b>	<b>9</b>

4.2.8	Encoding information using vibration amplitude.....	9
4.2.9	Encoding information by vibration frequency.....	10
4.2.10	Encoding by location .....	10
4.2.11	Encoding by temperature .....	10
4.2.12	Encoding by thermal conductivity .....	10
4.2.13	Identifying information values.....	10
5	Content-specific encoding.....	11
5.1	Encoding and text data .....	11
5.2	Encoding and using graphical data .....	11
5.2.1	Displaying tactile/haptic graphics.....	11
5.2.2	Using grids on tactile graphs .....	11
5.2.3	Using landmarks in tactile maps.....	11
5.2.4	Providing scales for tactile maps.....	11
5.3	Encoding and using controls .....	12
5.3.1	Using tactile/haptic controls.....	12
5.3.2	Using size and spacing of controls to avoid accidental activation.....	12
5.3.3	Avoiding difficult control actions.....	12
5.3.4	Using force to avoid accidental activation.....	12
5.3.5	Interacting with controls .....	12
6	Design of tactile/haptic objects and space .....	13
6.1	Tactile/haptic display spaces .....	13
6.1.1	Ease of perceiving multiple tactile/haptic objects .....	13
6.1.2	Ease of identifying adjacent tactile/haptic objects .....	13
6.1.3	Maintaining separation between surfaces of objects .....	13
6.1.4	Separating tactile/haptic elements.....	14
6.1.5	Avoiding empty spaces.....	14
6.1.6	Avoiding volume limits .....	14
6.1.7	Avoiding falling out of the tactile/haptic space .....	14
6.2	Objects .....	14
6.2.1	Using appropriate object size.....	14
6.2.2	Creating discriminable tactile/haptic symbols .....	14
6.2.3	Creating tactile/haptic symbols from visual symbols.....	15
6.2.4	Tactile/haptic object angles.....	15
6.2.5	Tactile/haptic object corners .....	15
7	Interaction.....	15
7.1	Navigating tactile/haptic space .....	15
7.1.1	Providing navigation information .....	15
7.1.2	Supporting path planning .....	15
7.1.3	Providing well-designed paths .....	15
7.1.4	Making landmarks easy to identify and recognise.....	15
7.1.5	Providing appropriate navigation techniques .....	15
7.1.6	Providing navigational aids .....	16
7.1.7	Understanding the tactile/haptic space .....	16
7.1.8	Supporting exploratory strategies (procedures).....	16
7.2	Reconfiguration .....	16
7.2.1	Reconfiguring the tactile/haptic space .....	16
7.3	Interaction techniques .....	17
7.3.1	Implementing interaction techniques .....	17
7.3.2	Avoiding unintended oscillation .....	17
	<b>Annex A (informative) Overview of the ISO 9241 series.....</b>	18
	<b>Bibliography .....</b>	22

## Introduction

Tactile and haptic interactions are becoming increasingly important as candidate interaction modalities in computer systems such as special-purpose computing environments (e.g. simulation) and in assistive technologies. While considerable research exists, a lack of ergonomic standards in this area could result in systems being developed without sufficient concern for either ergonomics or interoperability, leading to serious ergonomic difficulties for users of multiple, incompatible or conflicting tactile/haptic devices/applications. This part of ISO 9241 provides ergonomics recommendations for tactile and haptic hardware and software interactions, including guidance related to the design and evaluation of hardware, software, and combinations of hardware and software interactions. The guidelines are not technology-dependent and will also be applicable to future technologies.

# Ergonomics of human-system interaction —

## Part 920: Guidance on tactile and haptic interactions

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 9241 gives recommendations for tactile and haptic hardware and software interactions. It provides guidance on the design and evaluation of hardware, software, and combinations of hardware and software interactions, including

- the design/use of tactile/haptic inputs, outputs, and/or combinations of inputs and outputs, with general guidance on their design/use as well as on designing/using combinations of tactile and haptic interactions for use in combination with other modalities or as the exclusive mode of interaction,
- the tactile/haptic encoding of information, including textual data, graphical data and controls,
- the design of tactile/haptic objects,
- the layout of tactile/haptic space, and
- interaction techniques.

It does not provide recommendations specific to Braille, but can apply to interactions that make use of Braille.

The recommendations given in this part of ISO 9241 are applicable to at least the controls of a virtual workspace, but they can also be applied to an entire virtual environment — consistent, in as far as possible, with the simulation requirements.

**NOTE** It is recognized that some interactive scenarios might be constrained by the limitation that a real workspace is to be modelled in a virtual environment. Objects can be in suboptimal positions or conditions for haptic interaction by virtue of the situation being modelled.

### 2 Applying ISO 9241-920

#### 2.1 Recommendations

Individual recommendations given in Clauses 5 to 7 should be evaluated for their applicability. The applicable recommendations should be implemented unless there is evidence that to do so would cause deviation from the design objectives.

#### 2.2 Evaluation of products

If a product is claimed to have met the applicable recommendations in this part of ISO 9241 then the procedures used to establish the product's requirements, and to evaluate the product, shall be specified. The level of detail of the specification is a matter of negotiation between the involved parties.