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**Infotöölussüsteemid. Raalgraafika. Programmeerija hierarhilise interaktiivgraafika süsteem (PHIGS). Osa 1: Funktsionaalkirjeldus**

**Information processing systems - Computer graphics -  
Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics  
Systems (PHIGS) Part 1: Functional description**

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN 29592-1:1999 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 29592-1:1991+A1:1993+AC:1994 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN 29592-1:1999 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 29592-1:1991+A1:1993+AC:1994.
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ICS 35.140

Võtmesõnad: data handling, data processing, data transfer, description, graphic data processing, information interchange,

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 29 592

Part 1

NORME EUROPEENNE

EUROPAISCHE NORM

March 1991

UDC: 681.3.01:681.3.072.2:084

Descriptors: Data processing, teleprocessing, information interchange,  
graphic data processing, computer interfaces, computer  
programs

English version

Information processing systems -- Computer  
graphics -- Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive  
Graphics System (PHIGS) -- Part 1: Functional  
description (ISO/IEC 9592-1: 1989 - edition 1)

Systèmes de traitement de l'information  
-- Infographie -- Interface de  
programmation du système graphique  
hiérarchisé (PHIGS) -- Partie 1:  
Description fonctionnelle (ISO/IEC  
9592-1: 1989 - édition 1)

Graphische Systeme der  
Informationsverarbeitung --  
Hierarchisches Interaktives Graphisches  
Systems für Programmierer -- Teil 1:  
Funktionsbeschreibung (ISO/IEC 9592-1:  
1989 Ausgabe 1)

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Ref. No. EN 29592-1:1991 E

**FOREWORD**

The Technical Board has decided to submit the International Standard Information processing systems -- Computer graphics -- Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS) -- Part 1: Functional description to Formal Vote, and the result was positive. For the time being, this document exists only in the English and French versions.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Common Rules, the following countries are bound to implement this standard:

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The text of the International Standard ISO/IEC 9592-1, edition 1, 1989, was approved by CEN as a European Standard without any modification.

INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD

ISO/IEC  
**9592-1**

First edition  
1989-04-01

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**Information processing systems – Computer  
graphics – Programmer's Hierarchical  
Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS) –**

**Part 1 :  
Functional description**

*Systèmes de traitement de l'information – Infographie – Interface de  
programmation du système graphique hiérarchisé (PHIGS) –*

*Partie 1 : Description fonctionnelle*



Reference number  
ISO/IEC 9592-1 : 1989 (E)

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Printed in Switzerland

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## **Foreword**

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) together form a system for worldwide standardization as a whole. 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. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards. They are approved in accordance with procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the national bodies voting.

International Standard ISO/IEC 9592-1 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*.

Users should note that all International Standards undergo revision from time to time and that any reference made herein to any other International Standard implies its latest edition, unless otherwise stated.

ISO/IEC 9592 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information processing systems — Computer graphics — Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS)*:

- *Part 1: Functional description*
- *Part 2: Archive file format*
- *Part 3: Clear-text encoding of archive file*

Annex D forms an integral part of this part of ISO/IEC 9592. Annexes A, B, C, E, F, G, H, I are for information only.

# Information processing systems — Computer graphics — Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS) —

## Part 1 : Functional description

### 0 Introduction

The Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS) provides a set of functions for

- definition, display and modification of 2D or 3D graphical data,
- definition, display and manipulation of geometrically related objects,
- modification of graphics data and the relationships between the graphical data.

This International Standard draws extensively on GKS (Graphical Kernel System ISO 7942) and GKS-3D (Graphical Kernel System for Three Dimensions ISO 8805) for its model and functionality. In addition this International Standard enables graphical (and application) data to be stored in a hierarchical data store. Information in the data store can be inserted, modified and deleted with the provided functions. The relationship of this part of ISO/IEC 9592 to GKS and GKS-3D is further described in 4.3.2.

The choice of which graphics standard to use will depend on a number of factors: application profile, overall system architecture, equipment available, existing application database interaction, system performance considerations, user interface requirements, management policy and other external factors. The aim of producing a compatible set of graphics standards in GKS, GKS-3D and PHIGS is to allow that choice to be made in the most flexible way.

The main reasons for introducing a standard in this area of computer graphics are

- a) to allow application programs using dynamic hierarchical graphics to be easily portable between installations,
- b) to aid the understanding and use of dynamic hierarchical graphics methods by application programmers;
- c) to reduce program development costs and time; many of the functions currently performed by the application program will now be performed by PHIGS;
- d) to serve manufacturers of graphics equipment as a guideline in providing useful combinations of graphics capabilities in a device.

To meet these objectives, a number of design principles were adopted:

**Introduction**

- e) Consistency: the mandatory requirements of PHIGS should not be mutually contradictory.
- f) Compatibility: this Standard will be compatible with GKS and GKS-3D except when technical reasons justify differences.
- g) Orthogonality: the functions should be independent of each other.
- h) Completeness: all the functions necessary for application programs to use a dynamic hierarchical graphics system should be included.
- i) Minimality: redundant functions are only supported where their availability enables application programs to improve performance or where some collection of capabilities is frequently used.
- j) Programmer Experience: those using PHIGS should have a working knowledge of computer graphics.
- k) Error Handling: error conditions should be minimized, and their impact well defined.
- l) Device Independence: PHIGS should allow an application program to address facilities of different graphics input and output devices with minimal changes to the application program.
- m) Device Dependence: PHIGS should allow an application program to address specific graphics input and output devices in a direct manner.
- n) Implementability: it should be possible to support PHIGS functions using most languages on most operating systems.
- o) Efficiency: PHIGS should be capable of being implemented and executed without consuming undue amounts of computer resources.
- p) Interaction: Some application programs will require realtime or near-realtime response from PHIGS. PHIGS will not exclude such application programs though specific graphics devices and dedicated computer resources may be necessary.

Annexes A to C and E to I are given for information; they do not form part of this part of ISO/IEC 9592.

## 1 Scope and field of application

This part of ISO/IEC 9592 specifies a set of functions for computer graphics programming, the Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS). PHIGS is a graphics system for application programs that produce computer generated pictures on line graphics or raster graphics output devices. It supports operator input and interactions by supplying basic functions for graphical input and hierarchical picture definition. Picture definitions are retained in a *centralized structure store* where they may be edited by an application.

Pictures are displayed on *workstations* consisting of a single output device and a number of input devices. Several workstations can be used simultaneously. The application program is allowed to adapt its behaviour at a workstation to make best use of workstation capabilities.

Functions are specified for archiving picture definitions to file. In addition an interface to the Computer Graphics Metafile (ISO 8632) is described.

NOTE - For certain parameters of the functions, PHIGS defines value ranges as being reserved for registration (see 4.1.2). The meanings of these values will be defined using the established procedures.

This part of ISO/IEC 9592 defines a language independent nucleus of a graphics system for integration into a programming language. PHIGS is embedded in a language layer obeying the particular conventions of the language. Such language bindings are specified for ISO or ISO/IEC languages in ISO/IEC 9593.

## **2 References**

ISO 646, *Information processing - ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange.*

ISO 2022, *Information processing - ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets - Code extension techniques.*

ISO 2382-13, *Data processing - Vocabulary - Part 13: Computer graphics.*

ISO 6093, *Information processing - Representation of numeric values in character strings for information interchange.*

ISO 7942, *Information processing systems - Computer graphics - Graphical Kernel System (GKS) functional description.*

ISO 8632, *Information processing systems - Computer graphics - Metafile for the storage and transfer of picture description information*

- *Part 1 : Functional description*
- *Part 2 : Character encoding*
- *Part 3 : Binary encoding*
- *Part 4 : Clear text encoding*

ISO 8805, *Information processing systems - Computer graphics - Graphical Kernel System for Three Dimensions (GKS-3D) functional description.*

ISO/IEC 9593, *Information processing systems - Computer graphics - Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS) language bindings.*

*CIE Recommendations on colour space, supplement to CIE publication 15.*

*CIE 1976 Supplementary standard colour metric of server and coordinate systems.*