
Geographic information — Feature concept dictionaries and registers

*Information géographique — Dictionnaires de concepts de
caractéristiques et registres*



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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 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. 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 document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 19126 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 211, *Geographic information/Geomatics*.

Introduction

This International Standard specifies a schema for geographic feature concept dictionaries managed as registers. As described in ISO 19101, geographic features are abstractions of real world phenomena associated with a location relative to the surface of the earth, about which data are collected, maintained and disseminated.

A feature concept dictionary provides basic definitions and related information about a set of concepts that may be used to describe geographic features and shared across multiple application areas. Elements from a feature concept dictionary may be reused in one or more feature catalogues. A feature catalogue is often associated with a particular application schema, product specification and data set. It provides a complete textual specification of a set of feature types and their properties and relationships. See Annex A for further discussion of the relationships between feature concept dictionaries, feature catalogues, application schemas and product specifications.

ISO 19135 specifies procedures for the registration of items of geographic information. Items of geographic information that may be registered are members of object classes specified in technical standards such as those developed by ISO/TC 211. This International Standard defines object classes and specifies rules used to establish and maintain feature concept dictionaries as ISO 19135 conformant register schemas.

ISO 19135 specifies the structure of a hierarchical register in which the principal register holds a set of items that describe the subregisters. This International Standard specifies a schema for a hierarchical register where the subregisters are feature concept dictionaries and/or feature catalogues. This International Standard specifies an accompanying schema. The resulting hierarchical register may be used as a basis for harmonization and the establishment of interoperability between different geographic information communities.

Feature concept dictionaries and feature catalogues maintained as registers may serve as sources of reference for similar registers established by other geographic information communities as part of a system of cross-referencing. Cross-referencing between respective items in registers of items of geographic information may be difficult in cases where the structure of registers differs between information communities. This International Standard may serve as a guide for different information communities to develop compatible registers that can support a system of geographic information cross-referencing.

The Digital Geographic Information Working Group (DGIWG) community feature concept dictionary and register is described as an example implementation of this International Standard.

Geographic information — Feature concept dictionaries and registers

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a schema for feature concept dictionaries to be established and managed as registers. It does not specify schemas for feature catalogues or for the management of feature catalogues as registers. However, because feature catalogue are often derived from feature concept dictionaries, this International Standard does specify a schema for a hierarchical register of feature concept dictionaries and feature catalogues. These registers are in accordance with ISO 19135.

2 Conformance

2.1 Introduction

To conform to this International Standard, all of the conditions specified for at least one of the two conformance classes described below shall be satisfied.

2.2 Conformance for a feature concept dictionary

Any feature concept dictionary that claims conformance to this International Standard shall satisfy all of the conditions specified in the following abstract test suites:

- a) ISO 19135, A.1, for general conformance to ISO 19135, and
- b) B.2 of this International Standard.

A feature concept dictionary register established by ISO/TC 211 shall in addition satisfy all of the conditions specified in the ISO 19135 abstract test suite for registers established by ISO/TC 211 (ISO 19135, A.3).

2.3 Conformance for a register of feature concept dictionaries and/or feature catalogues

Any register of feature concept dictionaries and/or feature catalogues that claims conformance to this International Standard shall satisfy all of the conditions specified in the following abstract test suites:

- a) ISO 19135, A.1, for general conformance to ISO 19135,
- b) ISO 19135, A.2 for conformance to ISO 19135 as a hierarchical register, and
- c) B.3 of this International Standard.

A register of feature concept dictionaries and/or feature catalogues established by ISO/TC 211 shall in addition satisfy all of the conditions specified in the ISO 19135 abstract test suite for registers established by ISO/TC 211 (ISO 19135, A.3).