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## Geographic information — Terminology

*Information géographique — Terminologie*



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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.

In other circumstances, particularly when there is an urgent market requirement for such documents, a technical committee may decide to publish other types of document:

- an ISO Publicly Available Specification (ISO/PAS) represents an agreement between technical experts in an ISO working group and is accepted for publication if it is approved by more than 50 % of the members of the parent committee casting a vote;
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An ISO/PAS or ISO/TS is reviewed after three years in order to decide whether it will be confirmed for a further three years, revised to become an International Standard, or withdrawn. If the ISO/PAS or ISO/TS is confirmed, it is reviewed again after a further three years, at which time it must either be transformed into an International Standard or be withdrawn.

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/TS 19104 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 211, *Geographic information/Geomatics*.

## Introduction

This Technical Specification, along with a repository of geographic information system (GIS) terminology in the form of a terminological database, is expected to be a central reference for the shared language between participants and users alike. It defines the criteria for including concepts in the vocabulary, specifies the terminological data to be recorded, and, within the electronically processable repository, introduces an initial set of concepts with definitions that will be subject to ongoing maintenance.

This Technical Specification describes the structure of entries and the types of terminological data that are to be recorded. In addition, it includes principles for definition writing as outlined in ISO 10241 and ISO 704. The structure of a terminological record is given in Clause 7.

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# Geographic information — Terminology

## 1 Scope

This Technical Specification is applicable to international communication in the field of geographic information.

This Technical Specification provides the guidelines for collection and maintenance of terminology in the field of geographic information. It establishes criteria for selection of concepts to be included in other standards concerning geographic information, which are developed by ISO/TC 211, specifies the structure of the terminological record, and describes the principles for definition writing.

This Technical Specification also lays down the guidelines for maintenance of a Terminology Repository (see Annex A).

## 2 Conformance

Any product that claims conformance with this Technical Specification shall comply with the requirements described in the normative clauses and annexes.

Where a new term has been created for an existing concept, or an existing term has been incorrectly applied, the candidate document shall not be in conformance. Concepts and their definitions may be included with the candidate terms until conformance is demonstrated.

## 3 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 639-2, *Codes for the representation of names of languages — Part 2: Alpha-3 code*

ISO 704, *Terminology work — Principles and methods*

ISO 3166-1, *Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions — Part 1: Country codes*

ISO 10241, *International terminology standards — Preparation and layout*

ISO 19108:2002, *Geographic information — Temporal schema*

## 4 Terms and definitions

The core list of terms and definitions from the ISO/TC 211 geographic information International Standards and Technical Specifications is given in Annex B.

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.