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**Textiles — Man-made fibres — Generic  
names**

*Textiles — Fibres chimiques — Noms génériques*



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## Foreword

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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.

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ISO 2076 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 38, *Textiles*, Subcommittee SC 23, *Fibres and yarns*.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO 2076:1999), which has been technically revised.

## Introduction

A compilation of the generic names of man-made fibres is important for the global distribution of textile products due to national regulations for the declaration of fibre content and care labelling. There is a universal need for the standardization of generic names that would foster easy movement of textiles across borders to facilitate trade. Attempts to coordinate the EU, US Federal Trade Commission, and other countries' lists of generic names is an ongoing effort, as new man-made fibres are the result of innovations and business activities covering research and development in fibre-producing companies, and in the case where companies may have plants in multiple countries. It is recognized that new fibre brand names in textiles sold in markets occur before governmental regulations and standards can consider them for approval. Efforts to have only one name recognized for each generic fibre is the ideal approach but, as has been the case, two names for the same generic fibre are already in use for textiles being made and sold. Therefore, keeping a compilation of generic names will probably fall behind the actual incorporation of new fibres.

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# Textiles — Man-made fibres — Generic names

## 1 Scope

This International Standard lists the generic names used to designate the different categories of man-made fibres currently manufactured on an industrial scale for textile and other purposes, together with the distinguishing attributes that characterize them. The term “man-made fibres”, sometimes also called manufactured fibres, has been adopted for those fibres obtained by a manufacturing process, as distinct from materials which occur naturally in fibrous form.

## 2 General

### 2.1 Introduction

The entries in Table 1 are organized into four principal elements: generic name, code designation, distinguishing attributes and chemical formulae.

### 2.2 Generic name (e.g. acetate)

This is the name to be used for the fibre whose attributes are described under the heading **Distinguishing attribute** in Table 1. The use of this name shall be limited to those fibres that contain not more than 15 % by mass of fibre-forming additives (no limit is placed upon the proportion of additives that are not fibre-forming). In both the English and French languages, the generic name shall be written without capital letters. The generic name may also be used to describe textile products (yarns, fabrics, etc.) made from man-made fibres, in which case it is accepted that the manufacturing process may have modified the distinguishing attribute.

### 2.3 Code (e.g. CA)

This is a two- to four-letter designation used to facilitate the naming of man-made fibres, e.g. in sales and technical literature. In some cases, the coding system given to textile fibres is different from the one used for plastics.

### 2.4 Distinguishing attributes

These are attributes that differentiate one fibre from all the others. Chemical difference, which often results in distinctive property differences, is the main basis for classification in this International Standard; other attributes are used, where necessary, to differentiate between otherwise similar man-made fibres. The distinguishing attributes are not necessarily those by which the fibres might be identified or the same as those used for naming chemical molecules, nor are they necessarily suitable for the analysis of fibre mixtures.

NOTE In these descriptions, the concepts “group”, “linkage” and “unit” have been used in the following manner:

- “group” is used to denote a functional chemical unit, e.g. hydroxyl groups on acetate;
- “linkage” is used to denote a chemical bond;
- “unit” is used to denote a repeating element.