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Industrial systems, installations and equipment and
industrial products - Structuring principles and
reference designations - Part 1: Basic rules (IEC
81346-1:2022)

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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See Eesti standard EVS-EN IEC 81346-1:2022 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN IEC 81346-1:2022 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN IEC 81346-1:2022 consists of the English text of the European standard EN IEC 81346-1:2022.
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English Version

**Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products - Structuring principles and reference designations -
Part 1: Basic rules
(IEC 81346-1:2022)**

Systèmes industriels, installations et appareils, et produits industriels - Principes de structuration et désignations de référence - Partie 1: Règles de base
(IEC 81346-1:2022)

Industrielle Systeme, Anlagen und Ausrüstungen und Industrieprodukte - Strukturierungsprinzipien und Referenzkennzeichnung - Teil 1: Allgemeine Regeln
(IEC 81346-1:2022)

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
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European foreword

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- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2025-05-04

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IEC 60297-3-100	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60297-3-100
IEC 60297-3-101:2004	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60297-3-101:2004 (not modified)
IEC 61175-1:2015	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61175-1:2015 (not modified)
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IEC 61666:2010	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61666:2010 (not modified)
IEC 61666:2010/A1:2021	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61666:2010/A1:2021 (not modified)
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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



HORIZONTAL PUBLICATION
PUBLICATION HORIZONTALE

**Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products –
Structuring principles and reference designations –
Part 1: Basic rules**

**Systèmes industriels, installations et appareils, et produits industriels –
Principes de structuration et désignations de référence –
Partie 1: Règles de base**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	8
INTRODUCTION.....	11
1 Scope.....	13
2 Normative references	13
3 Terms and definitions	14
4 Concepts.....	16
4.1 Object.....	16
4.2 Aspect.....	17
4.3 Systems.....	19
4.4 Structuring.....	19
4.5 Function.....	19
4.6 Products and components.....	20
4.7 Location.....	21
4.8 Types.....	21
4.9 Object occurrences and product individuals	21
4.10 Relations between concepts	22
5 Structuring principles.....	23
5.1 General.....	23
5.2 Forming structures.....	26
5.3 Function-oriented structure	28
5.4 Product-oriented structure.....	29
5.5 Location-oriented structure	30
5.6 Type-oriented structure.....	31
5.7 Structures based on "other aspects"	31
5.8 Structures based on more than one aspect	33
6 Construction of reference designations.....	34
6.1 General.....	34
6.2 Format of reference designations.....	35
6.2.1 Single level.....	35
6.2.2 Multi-level.....	36
6.2.3 Use of letter codes	36
6.3 Different structures within the same aspect.....	37
7 Reference designation set.....	37
8 Designation of locations	39
8.1 General.....	39
8.2 Assemblies	39
9 Presentation of reference designations.....	41
9.1 Reference designations	41
9.2 Reference designation set	42
9.3 Presentation of identifiers for the top-node.....	43
10 Labelling.....	44
11 Presentation of properties for an object	45
12 Application of the reference designation system	46
Annex A (informative) Information model on the reference designation system	47
A.1 General.....	47

A.2	EXPRESS-G model.....	47
A.3	Entity descriptions	48
A.3.1	object	48
A.3.2	aspect	48
A.3.3	object_occurrence	48
A.3.4	function_occurrence	48
A.3.5	product_occurrence	49
A.3.6	location_occurrence.....	49
A.3.7	type_occurrence	49
A.3.8	other_aspect_occurrence.....	49
A.3.9	reference_designation	49
A.3.10	single_level_reference_designation	49
A.3.11	multi_level_reference_designation.....	50
A.3.12	reference_designation_set.....	50
A.3.13	classification_scheme	50
A.3.14	class.....	50
A.3.15	top_node_identifier	51
A.3.16	product_individual	51
A.4	Enumerations.....	51
A.4.1	aspect_kind	51
A.4.2	81346_classification_domain	51
A.5	EXPRESS code	52
Annex B	(informative) Establishment and life cycle of objects	54
B.1	Establishment and validity of objects	54
B.2	Life cycle story of an object.....	55
B.2.1	Overview	55
B.2.2	Function aspect and function based on a function-oriented structure (A).....	55
B.2.3	Functional requirement specification FR1 (B).....	57
B.2.4	Location aspect and reference designation based on a location-oriented structure (C)	57
B.2.5	Component type specification CT1 (D).....	57
B.2.6	Function list for system design FL1 and location list for physical design LL1 (E)	58
B.2.7	Product specification PS1 (F)	58
B.2.8	Parts list for manufacturing/installation PL1 (G)	58
B.2.9	Transport specification (H).....	59
B.2.10	Installation (J).....	59
B.2.11	Commissioning (K)	59
B.2.12	Acceptance and individual log IL1 (L)	59
B.2.13	Operation and maintenance (M).....	59
B.2.14	Alternative motor product individual (N)	60
B.2.15	Alternative motor type and supplier CT2, PS2 (P)	60
B.2.16	Process modification (R).....	60
B.2.17	Location extension (S)	60
B.2.18	Etc. (T)	60
B.2.19	Closing down (U)	60
B.2.20	Dismantling (V).....	60
B.2.21	Life cycle end (X).....	61
B.3	Discussion on the concept "object"	61

B.3.1	Different meanings of "motor"	61
B.3.2	Definition of "object"	61
B.4	Discussion on different life cycles	62
Annex C (informative)	Manipulation of objects	63
C.1	General.....	63
C.2	Establishment and validity of objects	63
C.2.1	Structuring.....	63
C.2.2	Ending the structuring.....	64
C.2.3	Relations between closely related objects.....	64
C.2.4	The roles of the reference designations set	66
C.2.5	Example	66
C.3	Life cycle situations	71
C.3.1	One object for all aspects	71
C.3.2	One object for each aspect.....	72
Annex D (informative)	Interpretation of reference designations using different aspects	74
Annex E (normative)	Object represented with several top nodes in an aspect	77
E.1	General.....	77
E.2	Example using aspect shift in structures	77
E.3	Example using aspect-oriented structures	78
Annex F (informative)	Examples of multiple structures based on the same aspect	80
F.1	Different function-oriented structures for a process plant	80
F.2	Topographical location of a system versus locations within an assembly.....	81
F.3	Different structuring for different needs	82
Annex G (normative)	Incorporating sub-objects in object structures	84
G.1	General.....	84
G.2	Example.....	84
Annex H (informative)	Example of reference designations within a system.....	88
Annex I (normative)	Designation of relations between objects.....	94
I.1	General.....	94
I.2	Basic principles.....	94
I.3	Designation of associative relations	94
I.4	Classification of relation kinds.....	95
I.5	Example of designation of associative relations	95
Annex J (normative)	Requirements for developing sector-specific parts of the International Standard 81346 series	97
J.1	General.....	97
J.2	81346 framework information model.....	97
J.2.1	EXPRESS-G model	97
J.2.2	Entity descriptions	98
J.2.3	Enumerations – 81346_classification_domain.....	100
J.2.4	EXPRESS code	102
Annex K (informative)	Metadata resource for structure management.....	103
Annex L (informative)	Recommendations for documentation of the application of the reference designation system	105
Annex M (informative)	Fundamental ideas for this document.....	111
M.1	General.....	111
M.2	Basic requirements for a reference designation system.....	111
M.3	Required properties for a reference designation system.....	111

Annex N (informative) Relationship to other standards	112
N.1 General	112
N.2 Use together with ISO/IEC/IEEE 42010:2011	112
N.2.1 General	112
N.2.2 Architecture description and architecture description language	112
N.3 Use together with IEC 61355-1:2008	113
N.3.1 General	113
N.3.2 Document designation	113
N.4 Use together with IEC 61175-1:2015	114
N.4.1 General	114
N.4.2 Signal designation	114
N.5 Use together with IEC 61666:2010	115
N.5.1 General	115
N.5.2 Terminal designation	115
Bibliography	116

Figure 1 – International Standards providing a consistent system for designation, documentation and presentation of information	12
Figure 2 – Illustration of an object	17
Figure 3 – Aspects of an object	18
Figure 4 – Generic relation between the functionality of a technical system and a technical process	19
Figure 5 – Example of functionality of a technical system and a technical process	20
Figure 6 – Illustration of the concept's product, component, type, individual and occurrence	22
Figure 7 – Illustration of structural decomposition of an object from different aspects	24
Figure 8 – Illustration of a function-oriented decomposition and product-oriented composition	25
Figure 9 – Structure tree of object A (alternative 1)	26
Figure 10 – Structure tree of object A (alternative 2)	26
Figure 11 – Constituents in one aspect of object type 1	27
Figure 12 – Constituents in one aspect of object type 2	27
Figure 13 – Constituents in one aspect of object type 5	27
Figure 14 – Structure tree of object type 1	28
Figure 15 – Illustration of a function-oriented structure	29
Figure 16 – Illustration of a product-oriented structure	30
Figure 17 – Illustration of a location-oriented structure	31
Figure 18 – Example of the use of "other aspect"	32
Figure 19 – Example of the use of "other aspect"	33
Figure 20 – Illustration of an object accessible from three aspects, and where these aspects are used also for internal structuring	33
Figure 21 – Illustration of an object identified by means of one aspect and with sub-objects identified by means of another aspect	34
Figure 22 – Relation between a multi-level reference designation and its single-level reference designations	36
Figure 23 – Example of reference designation sets	38
Figure 24 – Example of designation of mounting planes inside a factory build assembly	40

Figure 25 – Examples of designation of locations inside a factory build assembly	41
Figure 26 – Different objects on a site identified with top node identifiers.....	44
Figure 27 – The common initial portion of reference designations	44
Figure 28 – Labelling of reference designations	45
Figure 29 – Presentation of a property in combination with a reference designation.....	45
Figure A.1 – EXPRESS-G model of the reference designation system	47
Figure B.1 – Development situations of objects.....	54
Figure B.2 – The object's life cycle	56
Figure C.1 – Three independently defined objects	65
Figure C.2 – Three separate objects with mutual relations	65
Figure C.3 – The three objects are merged into one.....	66
Figure C.4 – Overview of the process system	67
Figure C.5 – Tree-like structures of the system.....	67
Figure C.6 – Completed structures of the system.....	68
Figure C.7 – Structures with designated sub-objects.....	69
Figure C.8 – Structures with some merged-and-shared objects.....	69
Figure C.9 – Relations expressed by reference designation sets in which both designations are unambiguous.....	70
Figure C.10 – Relations expressed by reference designation sets in which one designation is ambiguous.....	71
Figure C.11 – Situations in the beginning of an object's life cycle accessible from three aspects.....	71
Figure C.12 – Situations in the beginning of the life cycle of closely related objects, each accessible from one aspect	72
Figure D.1 – Shift from function to product aspect.....	74
Figure D.2 – Shift from product to function aspect.....	74
Figure D.3 – Shift from product to location aspect.....	75
Figure D.4 – Shift from location to product aspect.....	75
Figure D.5 – Shift from function to location aspect	76
Figure D.6 – Shift from location to function aspect	76
Figure E.1 – Object represented with several independent top nodes in one aspect.....	77
Figure E.2 – Example of multi-level reference designations using different aspects of an object with several independent top nodes in one aspect	78
Figure E.3 – Object represented with several independent top nodes in one aspect using aspect-oriented structures	79
Figure F.1 – Illustration of the concept of additional functional views of an industrial process plant	80
Figure F.2 – Location-oriented structure of a plant.....	81
Figure F.3 – Location-oriented structure within an assembly unit	81
Figure F.4 – Location-oriented structures of the plant	82
Figure F.5 – Example of additional product-oriented structures	83
Figure G.1 – Sub-contractor's design	85
Figure G.2 – Receiving organization's design	85
Figure G.3 – Full structure of the receiving organization's design.....	86
Figure H.1 – Process flow diagram for a material handling plant	88

Figure H.2 – Overview diagram of part of the process system (=V1) and part of the power supply system (=Q1).....	89
Figure H.3 – Structure tree for parts of the material handling plant	90
Figure H.4 – Layout drawing of the components of the MCC =Q1=W1	91
Figure H.5 – Layout drawing indicating the location of the MCC	91
Figure H.6 – Layout drawing of the locations of the MCC =Q1=W1	92
Figure H.7 – Motor starter	92
Figure H.8 – Product- and location-oriented structure trees for the MCC	93
Figure I.1 – Structure of a relation designation	95
Figure J.1 – International Standard 81346 framework – An EXPRESS-G model	98
Figure N.1 – Principle of document designation	113
Figure N.2 – Signal designation and signal connection identification	114
Figure N.3 – Principle of terminal designation	115
Table 1 – Identification of types, occurrences and individuals within different contexts	23
Table 2 – Examples of single-level reference designations	35
Table 3 – Examples of multi-level reference designations with multiple prefix signs	37
Table 4 – Examples of presentations of multi-level reference designations	42
Table 5 – Presentation of reference designations of a reference designation set	43
Table C.1 – Possible reference designation sets	70
Table G.1 – Reference designations in the receiver's design	87
Table H.1 – Reference designation set for the constituents of the products MCC and motor starter	93
Table I.1 – Example of classification scheme for associative relations	96
Table I.2 – Examples of relation designations	96
Table K.1 – Metadata elements for reference designation systems	104
Table L.1 – Documentation on the application of the rules	105

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS, INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS – STRUCTURING PRINCIPLES AND REFERENCE DESIGNATIONS –

Part 1: Basic rules

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This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) the scope includes a reference to IEC Guide 108 for being a horizontal publication;
- b) synchronization with IEC 81346-2:2019 and ISO 81346-12:2018;

- c) the introduction of the type aspect;
- d) introduction of an information model of the reference designation system;
- e) introduction of an information model for the framework of reference designation system to comply with International Standard 81346 series;
- f) introduction of recommendation for metadata for design structure management;
- g) introduction of rules and method for designation of relations between objects;
- h) introduction of requirements for development of sector-specific parts of the International Standard 81346 series;
- i) introduction of requirements for incorporation of sub-object in object structures;
- j) introduction of recommendations for documentation of the application of the International Standard 81346 series;
- k) introduced definition of new terms used;
- l) new rules added and existing rules modified;
- m) notes related to rules are converted to normative text as "Comment to Rule nn".

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
3/1541/FDIS	3/1548/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table. In ISO, the standard has been approved by 10 members out of 11 having cast a vote.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

A list of parts of the 81346 International Standard, published under the general title *Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products – Structuring principles and reference designations*, can be found on the IEC website.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications.

In this document, *italic type* is used as follows:

- terms defined in Clause 3 (applies to the text of Clause 3 only);
- in the description of the EXPRESS model, entity names and attribute identifiers;
- commenting on the story from a structuring and reference designation perspective in Clause B.2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

IMPORTANT – The "colour inside" logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this publication using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

This document establishes a further development of earlier and withdrawn standards on item designation. It provides the basics for establishing models of plants, machines, buildings, infrastructure, etc.

This document specifies:

- principles for structuring of objects including associated information;
- rules on forming of reference designations based on the resulting structure.

By applying the structuring principles, even very large sets of information describing a complex system can be handled efficiently. In Annex B, the life-cycle story of an object shows how different structures and aspects are related to the sets of information.

The structuring principles and the rules for reference designations:

- are applicable to objects of both physical and non-physical character;
- provide a system that is easy to navigate within and easy to maintain;
- provide an excellent overview on a technical system since composite structures are simple to establish and understand;
- support alternative design and engineering processes in the life cycle of an object since they are based on the successively established results of this process and not on how the engineering process itself is carried out;
- allow, by accepting more than one aspect, that more than one coding principle can be applied;
- allow "old structures" to be handled together with "new structures" by using multiple unambiguous identifiers;
- support individual management for the establishment of reference designations and enable subsequent integration of modules into larger constructs;
- support the establishment of reusable modules, either as functional specifications or as physical deliverables;

NOTE The concept of reusable modules encompasses for example, for manufacturers: the establishment of contract independent modules, and, for operators of complex assemblies: the description of requirements in terms of supplier independent modules.

- support concurrent work and allow different partners within a project to add and/or remove data to the structured project result as it proceeds; and
- recognize time factor within the life cycle as important for the application of different structures based on different views on the considered technical system.

The rules for structuring of information and for the construction of reference designations forms the basis for creating a reference designation system (RDS) complying with the International Standard 81346 series. Such systems are used for structuring and designating objects based on the needs of the organization using them.

The rules listed above are based on the fundamental ideas provided in Annex M that were defined for the development of the predecessor document for this document.

Annex A provides an information model of the framework described in this document and in IEC 81346-2. Annex A includes also elements related to other publications where the application of the reference designation in accordance with International Standard 81346 is considered.

Figure 1 provides an overview on International Standards providing a consistent system for designation, documentation, and presentation of information. Annex A provides more information on the relations between the International Standard 81346 series and other publications applying reference designations.

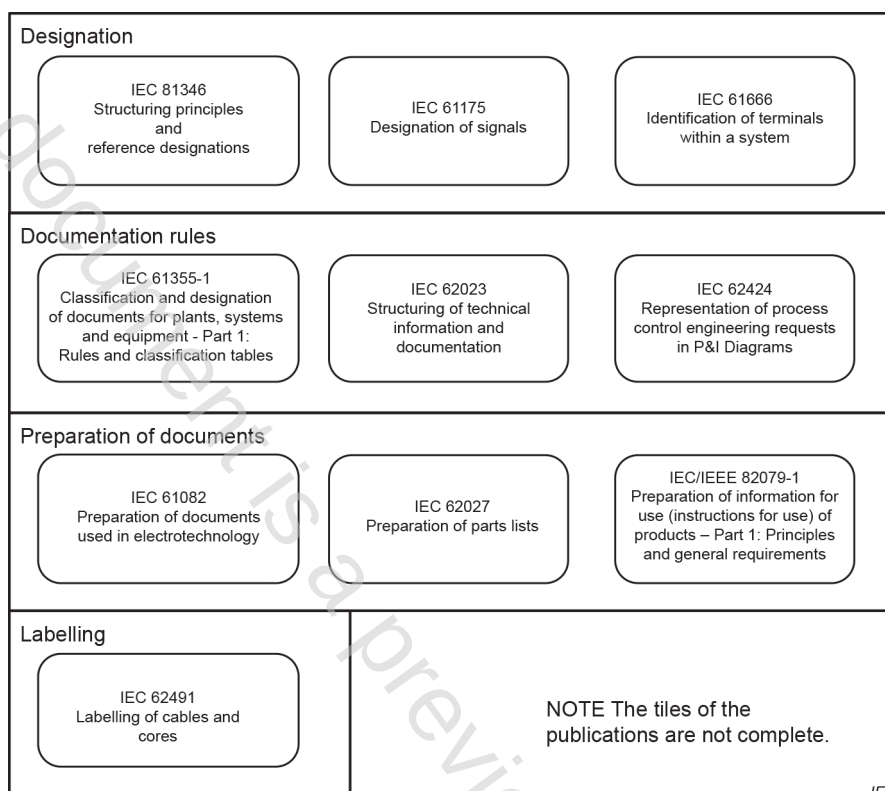


Figure 1 – International Standards providing a consistent system for designation, documentation and presentation of information

This document describes the fundamental rules and methods for structuring of information and for the definition of reference designation of objects within buildings, infrastructure, industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products. These rules form a basis for the establishment of specific reference designation systems (RDS) for use by industries, enterprises, projects or other organizational contexts.

IEC 81346-2 establishes classification schemes with defined object classes and their associated letter codes. It is primarily intended for use in reference designations and for designation of generic types. Classes can also be used for other purposes, for example, by manufacturers to show multiple potential use of a product. In this way, the classification can enhance searchability.

Used in combination, this document and IEC 81346-2 define a fundamental framework for reference designations that is independent of the context in which reference designations are applied. This is applicable for objects in all technical disciplines and all branches of industry, and is applicable through the whole life-cycle of objects.

The International Standard 81346 series additionally includes parts that define sector-specific reference designation frameworks that tailor the fundamental reference designation framework of this document and IEC 81346-2 to the needs of specific sectors. Requirements for developing sector-specific parts of the International Standard 81346 series are given in Annex J.

INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS, INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS – STRUCTURING PRINCIPLES AND REFERENCE DESIGNATIONS –

Part 1: Basic rules

1 Scope

This part of 81346 International Standard, published jointly by IEC and ISO, establishes general principles for the structuring of systems including structuring of information about systems.

Based on these principles, rules and guidance are given for the formulation of unambiguous reference designations for objects in any system.

The reference designation identifies objects for the purpose of creation and retrieval of information about an object and, where realized, about its corresponding component.

A reference designation labelled at a component is the key to finding information about that object among different kinds of documents.

The principles are general and are applicable to all technical areas (for example mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, construction engineering, process engineering). They can be used for systems based on different technologies or for systems combining several technologies.

This document is also a horizontal publication intended for use by technical committees in preparation of publications related to reference designations in accordance with the principles laid down in IEC Guide 108.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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.

IEC 81346-2:2019, *Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products – Structuring principles and reference designations – Part 2: Classification of objects and codes for classes*

ISO/IEC 646, *Information technology – ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*

ISO 81346-10:—, *Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products – Structuring principles and reference designations – Part 10: Power supply systems*¹

ISO 81346-12:2018, *Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products – Structuring principles and reference designations – Part 12: Construction works and building services*

¹ Second edition under preparation. Stage at the time of publication: ISO DIS 81346-10:2021.