ISO RECOMMENDATION
R 1087

VOCABULARY OF TERMINOLOGY

BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 1087, Vocabulary of terminology, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, Terminology (Principles and co-ordination) the Secretariat of which is held by the Osterreichisches Normungsinstitut (ON).

Work on this question led to the adoption of a Draft ISO Recommendation.

In March 1965, this Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 781) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. It was approved. subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by nineteen Member Bodies.

Five Member Bodies opposed the approval of the Draft.

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council which decided, in June 1969, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

FOREWORD

Cooperation and communication between experts engaged in all branches of science and technology are assuming ever-increasing importance as essential conditions for progress, both within each country and between countries. For this exchange to be successful, technical terms must have the same meaning for everyone who uses them. This goal can only be achieved if there is general agreement on the meaning of these terms. Hence the importance of technical vocabularies, in which concepts and terms, as well as their definitions, are standardized (terminological standards). It is standards such as these that help to ensure mutual understanding.

These vocabularies are prepared by the National Sandards Associations and by the Technical Committees of ISO. During the work on terminology carried out by bodies it quickly became apparent that it was necessary to have directives applicable to any field of knowledge and that it was possible to establish them.

Accordingly, ISO set up a Technical Committee, known as ISO/TC 37, Terminology (Principles and co-ordination), with the mission of finding out and formulating general principles on terminology and terminological lexicography.

The ISO Recommendations prepared by this Technical Committee deal with questions that fall under the following four classes :

1. Vocabulary of terminology.
2. Procedure for preparing national or international standardized vocabularies.
3. National and international standardization of concepts, terms and their definitions : principles for their establishment and criteria of value.
4. Layout of monolingual and multilingual vocabularies, including lexicographical symbols.

The ISO Recommendation included in class 2 deals with guidance in the organization of the work, while the other classes are concerned with technical details.

The following ISO Recommendations have been or will be issued :

Class 1
ISO/R 1087   Vocabulary of terminology

Class 2
ISO/R 919   Guide for the preparation of classified vocabularies (Example of method)

Class 3
ISO/R 704   Naming principles
ISO/R 860   International unification of concepts and termes

Class 4
ISO/R 1149   Layout of multilingual classified vocabularies
ISO/R...   Layout of monolingual classified vocabularies
ISO/R...(1)   Lexicographical symbols
ISO/R 639   Symbols for languages, countries and authorities

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(1) At present Draft ISO Recommendation No.1951.

CONTENTS

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(2) The sections of this vocabulary correspond to those of ISO Recommendation R 704 Naming principles.
(3) Section 4 of the Vocabulary will be contained in a supplement to this ISO Recommendation.

SYMBOLS USED (4)

;	between terms	Semi-colons separate synonyms. Example : connotation ; intension.
[ ]	enclosing words	Brackets enclose words which may replace preceding words. Example : complex [term [form] is equivalent to : complex term ; complex form.
( )	enclosing words	Parentheses enclose words which may be neglected : (1) If they are bold-faced, these words are part of the term. Example : field (of knowledge) is equivalent to : field of knowledge ; field. (2) If they are light-faced, the words are an explanatory note only. Example : terminology[1](science).
( )	enclosing numbers	Parentheses enclose the number of another entry of the Vocabulary to which reference is made. Example : The [fiel of knowledge (17) treating of...(Beginning of definition No.38). The reference ''(17)''refers entry No.17, where the term **field of knowledge** is defined.
[	before words	Corner brackets limit the scope of the symbol [ ] or of the symbol ( ) enclosing a number. Examples : (1) [term, in the example given above for the symbol [ ]. (2) ''[field'', in the example given above for the symbol ( ) enclosing numbers.

D	German	F	French	R	Russian	Sv	Swedish
E	English	I	Italian	S	Spanish		