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Information Technology - Message Handling Systems (MHS) - Part 9: Electronic Data Interchange Messaging System

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Part 9:
Electronic Data Interchange Messaging System

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO/IEC 10021-9 was prepared by ITU-T (as CCITT Recommendation X.435) and was adopted, under a special "fast-track procedure", by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology,* in parallel with its approval by national bodies of ISO and IEC.

ISO/IEC 10021 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Message Handling Systems (MHS)*:

— *Part 1: System and Service Overview*

— *Part 2: Overall Architecture*

— *Part 3: Abstract Service Definition Conventions*

— *Part 4: Message Transfer System: Abstract Service Definition and Procedures*

— *Part 5: Message Store: Abstract Service Definition*

— *Part 6: Protocol Specification*

— *Part 7: Interpersonal Messaging System*

— *Part 8: Electronic Data Interchange Messaging Service*

— *Part 9: Electronic Data Interchange Messaging System*

Annexes A to J form an integral part of this part of ISO/IEC 10021. Annexes K, L and M are for information only.

Introduction

This part of ISO/IEC 10021 is one of a number of parts of ISO/IEC 10021 (the International Standard for Message Handling Systems (MHS)).

MHS provides for the exchange of messages between users on a store-and-forward basis. A message submitted by one user (the *originator*) is transferred through the Message Transfer System (MTS), and delivered to one or more other users (the *recipients*). A user may interact directly with the MTS, or indirectly via a message store (MS).

The MTS comprises a number of message-transfer-agents (MTAs), which transfer messages and deliver them to their intended recipients.

This part of ISO/IEC 10021 was developed and published by the ITU-T in 1991. The equivalent ITU-T document is CCITT Recommendation X.435 (1991) as amended by the MHS Implementor's Guide (version 12).

Information technology - Message Handling Systems (MHS) -

Part 9 :
Electronic Data Interchange Messaging System

Section 1 - Introduction

1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 10021 is one of a set of standards for message handling. The entire set provides a comprehensive blueprint for a message handling system (MHS) realized by any number of cooperating open systems.

NOTE - The Message-Oriented Text Interchange System (MOTIS) was formerly the title of 10021:1990 parts and has been superseded by amendment to become Message Handling Systems (MHS). MHS is also published by the ITU-T as part of the X.400 series of Recommendations.

The purpose of an MHS is to enable users to exchange messages on a store-and-forward basis. A message submitted on behalf of one user, the originator, is conveyed by the message transfer system (MTS) and subsequently delivered to the agents of one or more additional users, the recipients. Access units (AU) link the MTS to communication systems of other kinds (e.g., postal systems). A user is assisted in the preparation, storage, and display of messages by a user agent (UA). Optionally, it is assisted in the storage of messages by a message store (MS). The MTS comprises a number of message transfer agents (MTA) which collectively perform the store-and-forward message transfer function.

This part of ISO/IEC 10021 defines the message handling application called EDI messaging (EDIMG), a form of message handling tailored for exchange of electronic data interchange (EDI) information, a new message content type and associated procedures known as P_{edi}. It is designed to meet the requirements of users of ISO 9735 (EDIFACT), and other commonly used EDI systems.

This part of ISO/IEC 10021 is one of a series on message handling. ISO/IEC 10021-2 | CCITT Recommendation X.402 constitutes the introduction to the series and identifies the other documents in it.

The architectural basis and foundation for message handling are defined in still other parts. ISO/IEC 10021-2 | CCITT Recommendation X.402 identifies those documents as well.

2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO/IEC 10021. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO/IEC 10021 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/IEC 8824:1990, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Specification of Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1).*
(See also CCITT Recommendation X.208 (1988))

ISO/IEC 8825:1990, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Specification of Basic Encoding Rules for Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1).*
(See also CCITT Recommendation X.209 (1988))