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Second edition
2009-08-01

Information and documentation — International standard music number (ISMN)

*Information et documentation — Numéro international normalisé de la
musique (ISMN)*



Reference number
ISO 10957:2009(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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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.

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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 10957 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Identification and description*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 10957:1993), which has been technically revised. It specifies the method to change the 10-digit ISMN to a 13-digit identifier to harmonize the format of the ISMN with the GS1 (formerly EAN.UCC) product code system. Additional specifications on administration of the ISMN system, assignment of ISMN, calculation of the check digit, and ISMN metadata have also been added.

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Introduction

The International standard music number (ISMN) was developed by and for the music publishing sector as a separate system to complement the International standard book number (ISBN). The existence of the ISMN as a separate identifier system makes it possible to identify printed and notated music as a distinct category of publication within the global supply chain and to develop trade directories and similar services for the specialized market for music publications. In addition, some features of the ISBN system, such as the inclusion of national and language groupings within the structure of the ISBN and its administration, are not suited to the practices and organization of the music sector where linguistic content does not have the same relevance that it does for textual publications. For these and other practical reasons, the ISMN and ISBN co-exist as separate identification systems.