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## Space systems — Disposal of satellites operating at geosynchronous altitude

*Systèmes spatiaux — Élimination des satellites opérant à une altitude géostionnaire*



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## Foreword

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## Introduction

This International Standard prescribes requirements for planning and executing manoeuvres and operations to remove an operating satellite from geosynchronous orbit at the end of its mission and place it in an orbit for final disposal where it will not pose a future hazard to satellites operating in the geosynchronous ring.

This International Standard includes requirements related to the following:

- when the disposal action needs to be initiated,
- selecting the final disposal orbit,
- executing the disposal action successfully, and
- depleting all energy sources to prevent explosions after disposal.

End-of-mission disposal of an Earth-orbiting satellite broadly means the following:

- a) removing the satellite from the region of space where other satellites are operating, so as not to interfere or collide with these other users of space in the future, and
- b) ensuring that the disposed object is left in an inert state and is incapable of generating an explosive event that could release debris which might threaten operating satellites<sup>1)</sup>.

For satellites operating in the geosynchronous belt, the most effective means of disposal is first to re-orbit the satellite to a super-synchronous orbit above the region of operating spacecraft and the manoeuvre corridor used for relocating operating satellites to new longitudinal slots, and then to discharge batteries and vent propellants and take other actions to preclude a debris-producing event.

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1) Further information will be provided in the future International Standard, ISO 16127.