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## **Financial transaction card originated messages — Interchange message specifications —**

### **Part 1: Messages, data elements and code values**

*Messages initiés par cartes de transaction financière — Spécifications  
d'échange de messages —*

*Partie 1: Messages, éléments de données et valeurs de code*



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Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11  
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47  
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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 8583-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 68, *Banking, securities and other financial services*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Retail financial services*.

ISO 8583 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Financial transaction card originated messages — Interchange message specifications*:

- *Part 1: Messages, data elements and code values*
- *Part 2: Application and registration procedures for Institution Identification Codes (IIC)*
- *Part 3: Maintenance procedures for messages, data elements and code values*

## Introduction

Services of the financial industry include the exchange of electronic messages relating to financial transactions. Agreements on application specifications are generally at a private level. This International Standard is designed as an interface specification enabling messages to be exchanged between systems adopting a variety of application specifications. The application specification may remain at the private level. Designers of such applications have complete design freedom within the overall constraint that messages shall be convertible to this interface format in order that international interchange may take place.

This International Standard uses a concept called a bit map, whereby each data element is assigned a position indicator in a control field, or bit map. A one in the assigned position indicates the presence of a data element in a specific message. A zero in the assigned position indicates the absence of a data element in a specific message.

Data representation used in individual systems is subject to the commercial relationships between the parties contracting to each system. The message formats specified in this International Standard are designed to ensure that compatibility between systems conforming to this International Standard is always feasible.

In a number of cases, the names of data elements and message classes can become confusing when used in descriptive paragraphs. The word authorization is a typical example. It is an activity undertaken by a card issuer, it is the name of a message class where an acquirer requests a card issuer to undertake the activity and it is also a word used in many data element names.

To aid clarity, the following conventions are followed within this International Standard:

- data element names have the first letter capitalized;
- data element names are shown in *italics* except when used in tables or figures;
- message class names are shown capitalized when the context refers to their use in messages or transactions.

ISO 8583:1993 has been revised to be published in three parts. A number of changes have been made to accommodate the latest advances in payment technologies and the opportunity has also been taken to improve the layout and readability. A summary of the most significant changes between ISO 8583:2003 (all parts) and ISO 8583:1993 is provided in Annex F.