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Banking — Banking telecommunication messages — Business identifier code (BIC)

Banque — Messages bancaires télétransmis — Code d'identification des entreprises (BIC)



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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 9362 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 68, *Financial services*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Core banking*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 9362:1994), which has been technically revised.

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Introduction

This International Standard specifies a universal method of identifying institutions within the financial services industry, in order to facilitate automated processing of telecommunication messages in banking and related financial transaction environments. The coding system specified in this International Standard is in full conformity with ISO/IEC 6523-1 and has been proposed for registration in accordance with ISO/IEC 6523-2.

The original scope of this International Standard was limited to the identification of banks; consequently, the acronym "BIC" was used as an abbreviation for "bank identifier code". The scope of this International Standard has since been extended, in the first place to cover all types of financial institutions, and now, in this third edition of this International Standard, to cover non-financial institutions as well. In order to avoid unnecessary costs that would have resulted from abandoning a well-known and widely-used acronym, the acronym "BIC" has been retained for the purposes of this International Standard, but is now used as an abbreviation for "business identifier code".

Annex A outlines the operation and responsibilities of the Registration Authority, and describes the procedures for the registration of BICs and publication of these codes in directory form.