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Information technology — Coding of audio-visual objects —

Part 12: ISO base media file format

*Technologies de l'information — Codage des objets audiovisuels —
Partie 12: Format ISO de base pour les fichiers médias*

Reference number

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology, SC 29, Coding of audio, picture, multimedia and hypermedia information*.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO/IEC 14496-12:2012), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Amendments ISO/IEC 14496-12:2012/Amd1:2013, ISO/IEC 14496-12:2012/Amd2:2014, ISO/IEC 14496-12:2012/Amd3:2015 and the Technical Corrigenda ISO/IEC 14496-12:2012/Cor1:2013, ISO/IEC 14496-12:2012/Cor2:2014 and ISO/IEC 14496-12:2012/Cor3:2015.

ISO/IEC 14496 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Coding of audio-visual objects*:

- *Part 1: Systems*
- *Part 2: Visual*
- *Part 3: Audio*

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- *Part 5: Reference software*
- *Part 6: Delivery Multimedia Integration Framework (DMIF)*
- *Part 7: Optimized reference software for coding of audio-visual objects*
- *Part 8: Carriage of ISO/IEC 14496 contents over IP networks*
- *Part 9: Reference hardware description*
- *Part 10: Advanced Video Coding*
- *Part 11: Scene description and application engine*
- *Part 12: ISO base media file format*
- *Part 13: Intellectual Property Management and Protection (IPMP) extensions*
- *Part 14: MP4 file format*
- *Part 15: Carriage of NAL unit structured video in the ISO Base Media File Format*
- *Part 16: Animation Framework eXtension (AFX)*
- *Part 17: Streaming text format*
- *Part 18: Font compression and streaming*
- *Part 19: Synthesized texture stream*
- *Part 20: Lightweight Application Scene Representation (LAsER) and Simple Aggregation Format (SAF)*
- *Part 21: MPEG-J Graphics Framework eXtensions (GFX)*
- *Part 22: Open Font Format*
- *Part 23: Symbolic Music Representation*
- *Part 24: Audio and systems interaction*
- *Part 25: 3D Graphics Compression Model*
- *Part 26: Audio conformance*
- *Part 27: 3D Graphics conformance*
- *Part 28: Composite font representation*
- *Part 29: Web video coding*

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— *Part 31: Video Coding for Browsers*

Introduction

The ISO Base Media File Format is designed to contain timed media information for a presentation in a flexible, extensible format that facilitates interchange, management, editing, and presentation of the media. This presentation may be 'local' to the system containing the presentation, or may be via a network or other stream delivery mechanism.

The file structure is object-oriented; a file can be decomposed into constituent objects very simply, and the structure of the objects inferred directly from their type.

The file format is designed to be independent of any particular network protocol while enabling efficient support for them in general.

The ISO Base Media File Format is a base format for media file formats.

It is intended that the ISO Base Media File Format shall be jointly maintained by WG1 and WG11. Consequently, a subdivision of work created ISO/IEC 15444-12 and ISO/IEC 14496-12 in order to document the ISO Base Media File Format and to facilitate the joint maintenance.

This technically identical text is published as ISO/IEC 14496-12 for MPEG-4, and as ISO/IEC 15444-12 for JPEG 2000, and reference to this specification should be made accordingly. The recommendation is to reference one, for example ISO/IEC 14496-12, and append to the reference a parenthetical comment identifying the other, for example "(technically identical to ISO/IEC 15444-12)".

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) draw attention to the fact that it is claimed that compliance with this document may involve the use of patents.

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