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## Information technology — Vocabulary

*Technologies de l'information — Vocabulaire*



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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](http://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](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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*.

This corrected version of ISO/IEC 2382:2015 incorporates the following corrections:

- Missing Introduction and Scope have been added.

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## 0 Introduction

### 0.1 General

Information technology gives rise to numerous international exchanges of both an intellectual and a material nature. These exchanges often become difficult, either because of the great variety of terms used in various fields or languages to express the same concept, or because of the absence or imprecision of the definitions of useful concepts.

To avoid misunderstandings and to facilitate such exchanges it is essential to clarify the concepts, to select terms to be used in various languages or in various countries to express the same concept, and to establish definitions providing satisfactory equivalents for the various terms in different languages.

ISO 2382 was initially based mainly on the usage to be found in the Vocabulary of Information Processing which was established and published by the International Federation for Information Processing and the International Computation Centre, and in the American National Dictionary for Information Processing Systems and its earlier editions published by the American National Standards Institute (formerly known as the American Standards Association). Published and Draft International Standards relating to information technology of other international organizations (such as the International Telecommunication Union and the International Electrotechnical Commission) as well as published and draft national standards have also been considered.

The purpose of ISO/IEC 2382 is to provide definitions that are rigorous, uncomplicated and which can be understood by all concerned. The scope of each concept defined has been chosen to provide a definition that is suitable for general application. In those circumstances where a restricted application is concerned, the definition may need to be more specific.

While it is possible to maintain the self-consistency of the original individual parts of ISO/IEC 2382, the reader is warned that the dynamics of language and the problems associated with the standardization and maintenance of vocabularies may introduce duplications and inconsistencies. Reducing the number of duplications and inconsistencies was the purpose of updating the standard in database format.

### 0.2 Editorial changes

The Information Technology Vocabulary Maintenance Team established several change logs that document the editorial changes made to the terminological entries of the multi-part ISO/IEC 2382 standard. Editorial changes included correcting spelling mistakes and typographical errors as well as consolidating duplicate entries. In cases where two or more concepts differed slightly, all entries were kept. These editorial changes, approved by the National Bodies on the Validation Team, were also made to records in the database used to perform the maintenance work.

### 0.3 Database technical characteristics

In almost all cases, the Maintenance Team modified the terminological entries from all original parts of ISO/IEC 2382 in accordance with the rules stated in ISO 10241:1992. However, the Maintenance Team faced a number of technical limitations specific to the database. For example, the majority of symbols, figures and tables in the original parts were either adapted or not reproduced. In addition, the database did not allow for bold or italic typefaces for terms found in definitions, examples, or notes.

### 0.4 Presentation of data

The ISO/IEC 2382 HTML file is the output of the database used for the maintenance work. The file includes entries in strict alphabetical order with no assigned entry number, unnumbered notes, and entry numbers from the original parts that appear below the terms ("nn.nn.nn (2382)").