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## Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture techniques — GS1 DataBar bar code symbology specification

*Technologies de l'information — Techniques automatiques d'identification et de capture des données — Spécifications de la symbologie des codes à barres GS1 DataBar*

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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 (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.

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

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national 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 and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 24724 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 31, *Automatic identification and data capture techniques*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 24724:2006), which has been technically revised.

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## Introduction

GS1 DataBar was formerly known as “Reduced Space Symbology (RSS)” and is renamed to align with the name of the GS1 organization.

The GS1 DataBar family contains three types of linear symbologies to be used with the GS1 system. The first type has four variations (GS1 DataBar Omnidirectional, GS1 DataBar Truncated, GS1 DataBar Stacked and GS1 DataBar Stacked Omnidirectional). The stacked variations are two-row symbols. The second type comprises only one variation, namely GS1 DataBar Limited. The third type has two variations: a single row variation (GS1 DataBar Expanded) and a multi-row stacked variation (GS1 DataBar Expanded Stacked). The use of GS1 DataBar is intended to comply with the GS1 application guidelines as defined in the GS1 General Specifications.

GS1 DataBar Omnidirectional and GS1 DataBar Stacked Omnidirectional encode a 14-digit GS1 item identification (often referred to as a Global Trade Item Number, or GTIN) in a linear symbol that can be scanned omnidirectionally by suitably programmed point-of-sale scanners. GS1 DataBar Truncated and GS1 DataBar Stacked encode a 14-digit GS1 item identification in a linear symbol and are not suitable for omnidirectional scanning. GS1 DataBar Limited encodes a 14-digit GS1 item identification with a leading digit of zero or one in a linear symbol for use on small items that will not be scanned at the point-of-sale. GS1 DataBar Expanded encodes GS1 item identification plus supplementary application identifier element strings such as weight and “best before” date in a linear symbol that can be scanned omnidirectionally by suitably programmed point-of-sale scanners.

Any member of the GS1 DataBar family can be printed as a stand-alone linear symbol or as part of a GS1 Composite symbol with an accompanying two-dimensional component printed above the GS1 DataBar linear component.

GS1 DataBar symbols are intended for encoding identification numbers and data supplementary to the identification. The administration of the numbering system by GS1 ensures that identification codes assigned to particular items are unique worldwide and that they and the associated supplementary data are defined in a consistent way. The major benefit for the users of the GS1 system is the availability of uniquely defined identification codes and supplementary data formats for use in their trading transactions.