

First edition
2016-10-01

Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture techniques — Optical Character Recognition (OCR) quality testing

Technologies de l'information — Techniques automatiques d'identification et de capture des données — Essais de qualité des caractères pour reconnaissance optique



Reference number
ISO/IEC 30116:2016(E)

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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 31, *Automatic identification and data capture techniques*.

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Introduction

For the inspection of ID documents, i.e. MRTDs (Machine Readable Travel Documents) according to ISO/IEC 7501 (all parts)/ICAO Doc 9303 (all parts) and driving licences according to ISO/IEC 18013 (all parts), a reliable and ergonomic document inspection technology is essential. Considering RFID interoperability, strong improvement has been reached introducing mechanisms for interoperability evaluation and testing of MRTDs and reader devices. Similar standards for optical reading would improve the reliability of OCR. This is especially important because OCR of the document's MRZ (Machine Readable Zone) is essential for accessing BAC (Basic Access Control) and/or SAC (Supplementary Access Control) protected passports.

Thus, reliable OCR makes the performance of automated border control systems, as well as of many other applications, more predictable. Furthermore, the evaluation of document reader products can be done much easier. This standardization project defines test methods to evaluate OCR document quality. Furthermore, it defines requirements ensuring the compliance to the applicable OCR standards. The project applies experiences from other domains such as bar code reading and possibly other test methods for OCR. Where conflicts in the specification work between MRTDs and driving licenses may arise, satisfying the definitions for MRTDs is given preference.