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Information technology — Control functions for coded character sets

*Technologies de l'information — Fonctions de commande pour les jeux
de caractères codés*



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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. 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.

International Standard ISO/IEC 6429 was prepared by the European Computer Manufacturers Association (as Standard ECMA-48) and was adopted, under a special "fast-track procedure", by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC1, *Information technology*, in parallel with its approval by national bodies of ISO and IEC.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 6429:1988), which has been technically revised.

Annexes A, B, C, D, E, F and G of this International Standard are for information only.

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Introduction

This International Standard constitutes a repertoire of a large number of control functions the definitions and coded representations of which are thus standardized. For each application the required selection of control functions can be made from this repertoire.

This third edition of ISO/IEC 6429 contains the control functions already standardized in the second edition and, in addition, new control functions needed for handling bi-directional texts, i.e. texts comprising parts written with a left-to-right script and parts written with a right-to-left script. ECMA Technical Report TR/53 gives further information and examples of handling such texts. The inclusion of these specialized control functions has required a corresponding adjustment of the definitions of some of the other control functions. Moreover, the concept of "device" had to be revised.