Standard Address Number (SAN) for the Publishing Industry

Abstract: This standard describes how to create a unique numeric identifier for each address of each organization, in or served by the publishing industry, that is engaged in repetitive transactions with other members of this group in order to facilitate communications among them.

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Foreword

(This foreword is not a part of American National Standard Address Number (SAN) for the Publishing Industry, ANSI/NISO Z39.43-1993, but is included for information only.)


The several hundred thousand organizations within or served by the publishing industry engage in a large number of separate transactions with one another. These transactions include purchases of books by book dealers and the payments for all such purchases. Many of these organizations have similar names and multiple addresses, making identification of the correct contact point difficult and subject to error. In many cases the physical movement of materials is between addresses that differ from the addresses to be used for the related financial transactions. Thus, a complex structure of records is required, providing a further opportunity for error.

The objective of this standard is to establish an identification code system so that each address within the publishing industry may be assigned a discrete code to be used for positive identification for all book and journal buying and selling transactions within the industry.

ANSI/NISO Z39.43-1993 makes three revisions to the original standard. The title has been revised to represent more correctly the scope of the standard. This revision also expands the original scope to include book and journal manufacturers, since Electronic Data Interchange standards are under development for communications between members of the publishing industry and these suppliers, using SAN as the organization identifier. Finally, this revision describes how to use the SAN in international transactions.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard will be welcome. They should be sent to the National Information Standards Organization, P.O. Box 1056, Bethesda, MD 20827, (301) 975-2814.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the National Information Standards Organization. NISO approval of this standard does not necessarily imply that all Voting Members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard, NISO had the following members:

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1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose and Scope

This standard describes how to create a unique numeric identifier for each address of each organization, in or served by the publishing industry, that is engaged in repetitive transactions with other members of this group in order to facilitate communications among them.

It is intended that these numeric identifiers will be assigned to and used by U.S. book and journal publishers, booksellers, book wholesalers, subscription agents, jobbers and distributors, printers, binders, compositors and other manufacturing suppliers to the publishing industry, college and university bookstores, libraries, library systems, elementary and secondary schools and school systems. It is not expected that this numeric identifier will be assigned to or used by organizations whose transactions with members of this group are infrequent, although they are not necessarily excluded.

2. Definitions

Publishing Industry—For purposes of this standard, the publishing industry includes book and journal publishers, book wholesalers, book distributors, subscription agents, book retailers, college bookstores and libraries, printers, binders, compositors and other manufacturing suppliers to the publishing industry. Schools, school systems, technical institutes, colleges, and universities are not members of the publishing industry, but are served by them.

Repetitive Transactions—Transactions between two parties that are repeated over and over again. See transaction.

SAN—Standard address number (see Section 3).

Journal—A publication issued in successive parts, usually at regular intervals, and, as a rule, intended to be continued indefinitely. Journals include periodicals, newspapers, annuals (reports, yearbooks, and the like), memoirs, proceedings, and transactions of societies. They may include monographic and publishers' series.

Transaction—A piece of business or trade between two parties, including buying, selling, exchanging, servicing, and repairing.

Uncontrolled Use—No standards, restrictions, or limitations on use. This expression refers to a block of numbers that are specifically excluded from the standard address.