

AS 3659—1989

ISO 6166:1987

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Securities—International  
securities identification  
numbering system (ISIN)**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee IT/5, Financial Transaction Systems. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 19 June 1989 and published on 13 October 1989.

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Australian Association of Permanent Building Societies  
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Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association  
Australian Federation of Credit Unions  
Australian Information Industry Association  
Australian Institute of Petroleum  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Financial Transaction Systems. It is identical with and has been reproduced from International Standard ISO 6166:1987 *Securities—International securities identification numbering system (ISIN)*.

To expedite issue as an Australia Standard, this Standard has been published before a new version of the ISO Standard showing the addition of an Australian Registry to Annex B, page 5, becomes available.

The Australian registry is:

Country code: AU  
 Australian Stock Exchange  
 PO Box H224  
 AUSTRALIA SQUARE 2000  
 Telephone (02) 227 0000  
 Telex STOCKEX AA 20630  
 Fax (02) 251 4071

For the purpose of this Australian Standard, the text of the ISO Standard should be modified as follows:

- (a) *Terminology*—the words 'Australian Standard' should replace the words 'International Standard' wherever they apply.
- (b) *References*—the references to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian Standards as follows:

<i>International Standard</i>	<i>Australian Standard</i>
ISO	AS
3166 Codes for the representation of names of countries	2032 Codes for the representation of names of countries

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# Securities—International securities identification numbering system (ISIN)

## 1 Scope

This International Standard provides a uniform structure for ISINs and designates the bodies, possibly national ones, responsible for the allocation of the various ISINs with the result that each security issue bears only one ISIN.

This International Standard is intended for use in any application in the trading and administration of securities in international securities business. Insofar as the trading and administration of securities do not affect other countries, the application of this International Standard remains at the discretion of the responsible national bodies, such as stock exchanges, banks, brokers and other institutions active in the securities field.

## 2 Normative reference

The following standard contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the edition indicated was valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards listed below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 3166, *Codes for the representation of names of countries*.

## 3 Definition

For the purpose of this International Standard, the following definition applies.

**ISIN (International Securities Identification Number):** A code which uniquely identifies a specific securities issue.

## 4 Principles

The ISIN shall consist of

- a) a **prefix**, which is the alpha-2 country code (see ISO 3166) of the country where the issuer of securities other than debt securities is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, in which he has legal domicile. For debt securities, the country code is that of the agency which allocates the ISIN. The issuer of depositary

receipts is the body which has issued them, not the body which issued the securities they represent; therefore, the country code of the issuer of the depositary receipts shall be used;

- b) the **basic number**, which is nine characters (letters and/or digits) in length. Where the existing national number consists of nine characters, this number shall be used; where the national number consists of fewer than nine characters, this also shall be used, but zeros shall be inserted in front of the national number. Where a national check digit exists, it shall be regarded as part of the basic number within the nine characters;

- c) a **check digit**, computed according to the modulus 11 "Double-Add-Double" as described in annex A.

## 5 ISIN agencies

5.1 For securities other than debt securities, whose issuer is registered or has his domicile [see 5a)] in a country where a national numbering system exists, the responsible national agency exclusively shall allocate the ISIN in accordance with clause 4 above. For debt securities, issued after the date of publication of the third edition of this International Standard, the agency in the country of the lead manager for the particular issue shall allocate the ISIN, except that under conditions to be determined by the lead manager, an international clearing system (see annex G) may allocate the ISIN in the same capacity as a national agency. For debt securities, issued prior to the date of publication of the third edition of this International Standard, the agency in the country of the main paying agent shall allocate the ISIN.

An application (see annex F) for allocation of an ISIN may be submitted to the applicant's national numbering agency (see annex B), or a designated international clearing system, where applicable (see annex G), or a substitute agency (see annex D).

5.2 Where no national agency exists, one of the agencies ("substitute agencies") listed in annex D, or such other agency or agencies as may be determined by ISO in the future, shall allocate the ISIN, as defined in clause 4 above.

Where a national agency exists but refuses to allocate a number, the same applies. However, documentation of the refusal shall be provided to the substitute agency to which application is being made. If the substitute agency allocates an ISIN, it shall inform the competent national agency of this allocation.