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STANDARDS
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Building information modelling — Level of information need

Part 1: Concepts and principles



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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee BD-104, Building Information Modelling.

The objective of this document is to specify concepts and principles to establish a methodology for specifying level of information need and information deliveries in a consistent way when using building information modelling (BIM).

This document specifies the characteristics of different levels used for defining the detail and extent of information required to be exchanged and delivered throughout the life cycle of built assets. It gives guidelines for principles required to specify information needs.

The concepts and principles in this document can be applied for a general information exchange and while in progress, for a generally agreed way of information exchange between parties in a collaborative work process, as well as for an appointment with specified information delivery.

This document is applicable to the whole life cycle of any built asset, including strategic planning, initial design, engineering, development, documentation and construction, day-to-day operation, maintenance, refurbishment, repair and end-of-life.

This document is identical with, and has been reproduced from, ISO 7817-1:2024, *Building information modelling — Level of information need - Part 1: Concepts and principles*.

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 59, *Buildings and civil engineering works*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Organization and digitization of information about buildings and civil engineering works, including building information modelling (BIM)*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 442, *Building Information Modelling (BIM)*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

A list of all parts in the ISO 7817 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document sets out the concepts and principles for defining the level of information need and information deliveries which form part of the information exchange processes during the life cycle of built assets when using building information modelling (BIM). These concepts and principles can deliver clear benefits to all participants in the various life cycle phases of built assets as they provide a common understanding on the right level of information needed at a certain time. One purpose of defining the level of information need is to prevent delivery of too much information. Information exchange should ensure the required information to be delivered at the agreed time for the agreed purpose to facilitate verification and validation processes.

This document provides methods for describing information to be exchanged according to exchange information requirements. The exchange information requirements specify the wanted information exchange. The result of this process is an information delivery.

There is a need that these concepts and principles are described in a common and comparable way to allow services related to building information modelling to be procured and offered on a global scale. The need has arisen by the fact that there are several conflicting terms, concepts and usages in place, internationally, that hinder the objective of having a common understanding and practise in describing the level of information need. It is therefore helpful not to use an acronym to refer to level of information need as this can oversimplify these concepts.

The concepts and principles contained in this document are aimed at all those involved in the asset life cycle. These include, but are not limited to, the asset owner/operator, the client, the asset manager, the design team, the construction team, an equipment manufacturer, a technical specialist, a regulatory authority, an investor, an insurer and an end-user.

The information exchange, as well as related topics such as the exchange information requirements and the information delivery are defined and explained in context of ISO 19650-1 and ISO 29481-1.

NOTES

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Building information modelling — Level of information need

Part 1: Concepts and principles

1 Scope

This document specifies concepts and principles to establish a methodology for specifying level of information need and information deliveries in a consistent way when using building information modelling (BIM).

This document specifies the characteristics of different levels used for defining the detail and extent of information required to be exchanged and delivered throughout the life cycle of built assets. It gives guidelines for principles required to specify information needs.

The concepts and principles in this document can be applied for a general information exchange and while in progress, for a generally agreed way of information exchange between parties in a collaborative work process, as well as for an appointment with specified information delivery.

This document is applicable to the whole life cycle of any built asset, including strategic planning, initial design, engineering, development, documentation and construction, day-to-day operation, maintenance, refurbishment, repair and end-of-life.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 29481-1, *Building information models — Information delivery manual — Part 1: Methodology and format*

ISO 6707-1, *Buildings and civil engineering works — Vocabulary — Part 1: General terms*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 29481-1, ISO 6707-1 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

information container

named persistent set of *information* (3.11) retrievable from within a file, system or application storage hierarchy

EXAMPLE Including sub-directory, information file (including model, document, table, schedule), or distinct sub-set of an information file such as a chapter or section, layer or symbol.

Note 1 to entry: Persistent information exists over a timescale long enough for it to have to be managed, i.e. this excludes transient information such as internet search results.

Note 2 to entry: Naming of an information container should be according to an agreed naming convention.

[SOURCE: ISO 19650-1:2018, 3.3.12, modified — Note 1 to entry has been removed; subsequent notes to entry have been renumbered.]