

Australian Standard™

**Information technology—Metadata
registries (MDR)**

**Part 5: Naming and identification
principles for data elements**



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registries (MDR)**

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee IT-027, Data Management and Interchange.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from, ISO/IEC 11179-5:1995, *Information technology—Specification and standardization of data elements—Part 5: Naming and identification principles for data elements*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide rules and guidelines for naming and identification of data elements to facilitate electronic data interchange and data sharing for use by electronic commerce and database designers.

This Standard is Part 5 of AS 11179, *Information technology—Metadata registries (MDR)*, which is published in parts as follows:

Part 1: Framework

Part 2: Classification for data elements

Part 3: Registry metamodel and basic attributes

Part 4: Formulation of data definitions

Part 5: Naming and identification principles for data elements (this Standard)

Part 6: Registration

The term ‘informative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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<i>Reference to International Standard</i>		<i>Australian Standard</i>	
ISO/IEC		AS ISO/IEC	
11179	Information technology—Metadata registries (MDR)	11179	Information technology—Metadata registries (MDR)
11179-3	Part 3: Registry metamodel and basic attributes	11179.3	Part 3: Registry metamodel and basic attributes
11179-4	Part 4: Formulation of data definitions	11179.4	Part 4: Formulation of data definitions

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INTRODUCTION

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 contains principles, rules and guidelines. Principles establish the premises on which the rules are based. Rules are mandatory and testable for compliance. Guidelines are applications of the rules recommended for good practice.

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Information technology—Metadata registries (MDR)

Part 5:

Naming and identification principles for data elements

1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 provides rules and guidelines for naming and identification of data elements. It describes the components and structure of data element identification. Identification is narrowly defined to encompass only the means to establish unique identification of data elements within a register. It defines the identifying attributes; describes the relationship of the attributes to each other; includes principles by which naming conventions can be developed; and describes an example naming convention. The naming guidelines described herein can also be applied to names of data concepts in addition to names of data elements.

This part of ISO/IEC 11179 should be used in conjunction with those which establish rules and procedures for attributing, classifying, defining, and registering data elements.

2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO/IEC 11179. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO/IEC 11179 are encouraged to apply the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/IEC 11179-3:1994, *Information technology - Specification and standardization of data elements - Part 3: Basic attributes of data elements*.

ISO/IEC 11179-4:1995, *Information technology - Specification and standardization of data elements - Part 4: Rules and guidelines for the formulation of data definitions*

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO/IEC 11179, the following definitions apply.

3.1 attribute: A characteristic of an object or entity (ISO/IEC 11179-3).

3.2 context: A designation or description of the application environment or discipline in which a name is applied or from which it originates (ISO/IEC 11179-3).

3.3 data element: A unit of data for which the identification, meaning, representation and permissible values are specified by means of a set of attributes (ISO/IEC 11179-3).