



National Standards Authority of Ireland

IRISH STANDARD

I.S. CEN/TS 14631:2005

ICS 03.240

**POSTAL SERVICES - AUTOMATIC
IDENTIFICATION OF RECEPTACLES AND
CONTAINERS - RECEPTACLE ASSET
NUMBERING**

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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
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CEN/TS 14631

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English version

**Postal services - Automatic identification of receptacles and
containers - Receptacle asset numbering**

Postalische Dienstleistungen - Automatische
Kennzeichnung von Behältern und Containern -
Assetnummerierung auf Behältern

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 11 October 2004 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

CEN members are required to announce the existence of this CEN/TS in the same way as for an EN and to make the CEN/TS available promptly at national level in an appropriate form. It is permissible to keep conflicting national standards in force (in parallel to the CEN/TS) until the final decision about the possible conversion of the CEN/TS into an EN is reached.

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Foreword

This document (CEN/TS 14631:2005) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 331 "Postal Services", the secretariat of which is held by NEN, in collaboration with the UPU.

NOTE This document has been prepared by experts coming from CEN/TC 331 and UPU, under the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the UPU and CEN.

This document (CEN/TS 14631:2005), is the CEN equivalent of UPU¹⁾ standard S37-5. It may be amended only after prior consultation, between CEN/TC 331 and the UPU Standards Board, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between CEN and the UPU.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

The UPU's contribution to the document was made, by the UPU Standards Board²⁾ and its sub-groups, in accordance with the rules given in Part V of the "General information on UPU standards".

This document is the second version of the Technical Specification, but corresponds to the fifth version (S37-5) of UPU standard S37. The revisions were primarily developed to ensure alignment between S37 and CEN/TS 14631. Substantive changes to the first version, TS 14631:2003, are:

- modification of the Foreword, to make it consistent with that in S37-5;
- use of the term 'specification' rather than 'standard' to retain consistency between the CEN document, which is classed as a Technical Specification, and the UPU one, which is classed as a standard;
- update of the reference to ANSI MH10.8.2 and removal of the note concerning the draft version for trial use;
- 5.5.1 now refers to the possibility of other numeric prefixes being defined, in UPU code list³⁾ 156, without the need to update the main specification;
- update of 7.2 to reflect the usage of the GIN segment for reporting of container identifiers in UPU standard M34.

1) The Universal Postal Union (UPU) is the specialized institution of the United Nations that regulates the universal postal service. The postal services of its 189 member countries form the largest physical distribution network in the world. Some 5 million postal employees working in over 660 000 post offices all over the world handle an annual total of 425 billion letters-post items in the domestic service and almost 6,7 billion in the international service. Some 4.5 billion parcels are sent by post annually. Keeping pace with the changing communications market, posts are increasingly using new communication and information technologies to move beyond what is traditionally regarded as their core postal business. They are meeting higher customer expectations with an expanded range of products and value-added services.

2) The UPU's Standards Board develops and maintains a growing number of standards to improve the exchange of postal-related information between posts, and promotes the compatibility of UPU and international postal initiatives. It works closely with posts, customers, suppliers and other partners, including various international organizations. The Standards Board ensures that coherent standards are developed in areas such as electronic data interchange (EDI), mail encoding, postal forms and meters. UPU standards are published in accordance with the rules given in Part VII of the General information on UPU standards, which may be freely downloaded from the UPU world-wide web site (www.upu.int).

3) UPU code lists define the interpretation to be given to codes used in the context of UPU standards. They are managed by the UPU Data and Code Definition Group and its Code Allocation and Maintenance sub-group, to which requests for the allocation of new code values may be submitted. The code lists are published on the UPU world-wide web site (www.upu.int) and are freely downloadable.

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Annex A is informative.

This document includes a Bibliography.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to announce this CEN Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

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