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I.S. EN 15744:2009 (APR 09)

# Film identification - Minimum set of metadata for cinematographic works

## I.S. EN 15744:2009 (Apr 09)

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<b>NSAI</b> 1 Swift Square, Northwood, Santry Dublin 9	T +353 1 807 3800 F +353 1 807 3838 E standards@nsai.ie W <b>NSAI.ie</b>	<b>Sales:</b> T +353 1 857 6730 F +353 1 857 6729 W standards.ie
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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN 15744**

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EUROPÄISCHE NORM

March 2009

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English Version

## Film identification - Minimum set of metadata for cinematographic works

Identification des films - Jeu minimal de métadonnées pour  
œuvres cinématographiques

Identifikation von Filmen - Mindestsatz von Metadaten für  
Kinofilme

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 17 January 2009.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



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**Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels**

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## Foreword

This document (EN 15744:2009) has been prepared by CEN/TC 372 "Cinematographic Works", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2009, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2009.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

In recent years, there has been a proliferation of new metadata standards intended to provide greater control, consistency and accuracy of the data in the ever-expanding environment of the World Wide Web, through, for example, links to shared named authority files. In developing a new standard this is one of the main issues to which CEN/TC 372 "Cinematographic Works" has needed to address. It is also the case that the data that exists in many cultural organisations across Europe has been compiled over many years and in some cases predates the advent of computer databases. To help reconcile some of the data inconsistencies that will inevitably exist in such a volume of data from so many disparate sources, the standard seeks to provide a bridge between the data that exists and the emerging technologies chosen to represent this data. The principle of EN 15744 is to enable the clearest possible enunciation of data that is available to assist with the task of resource identification. The aim of prEN 15907 is to provide a framework for improved interoperability of that data by providing a common definition for that data. CEN/TC 372 "Cinematographic Works" was set up to develop the European standards mandated by the European Commission. The Task Force decided to fulfil the tasks listed in the mandate M/365 by developing two projects:

- EN 15744 – "Film Identification – Minimum set of metadata for cinematographic works"; which contains a minimum set of 15 data elements considered necessary for the identification of cinematographic works. In addition, it contains a unified terminology required for the clear understanding of the standard.
- prEN 15907 – "Film Identification – Enhancing interoperability of metadata – Element sets and structures", which provides a comprehensive standard for the representation and exchange of metadata for cinematographic works, as well as a comprehensive and consistent terminology.

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

## **Introduction**

Cinematographic works are an essential component of European cultural heritage. Film history and culture is recognized as an integral part of everything from tourism to documentary evidence and is known to have a significant impact on culture and education worldwide. This has been emphasized by the European Parliament and Council Recommendation of 16 November 2005 on film heritage and the competitiveness of related industrial activities.

Film archives, film museums, cinémathèques and other cultural organisations have the responsibility to both preserve and make accessible film heritage. This responsibility includes acquisition of culturally important works; preservation through good storage and duplication to modern stable formats; curatorial research and interpretation; and programming and exhibition. Key to all of these activities is the responsibility of creating and maintaining databases containing information about the films. Without such documentation, preservation and access activities are not possible.

At present, there is great variation in how filmographic databases are organized and implemented. Experts of all European countries have recognized that this variance stands in the way of interoperability and commonality of data.

The European Commission charged CEN with a mandate on 14 March 2005 to create a metadata standard for cinematographic works. In response to this mandate, this standard undertakes to define the metadata essential for data migration between databases and consistent identification of films.

The primary users of this European standard will be film archives, film museums, cinémathèques and any other cultural organisations with filmographic databases. They will also be the primary beneficiaries of the implementation of this European standard throughout Europe, as it will facilitate their access to filmographic metadata on works held by other organisations. Researchers, universities, students and the general public will also benefit in that it will be easier to integrate the information contained in the databases into larger information systems if it is organised according to this European standard. The standard will also benefit film producers which, like the primary users, will be able to organize their metadata as defined by the standard. In consequence, this European standard is expected to raise the visibility of Europe's rich and diverse film heritage on the internet, and to improve access to it by citizens and professional users of cultural material in line with the objectives set out in the Commission Recommendation on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation of 24 August 2006.

As requested by the European Commission's mandate, this standard is based on international recommendations and practices. It should be noted that this European Standard is intended to define and enable the selection of those data elements that are considered of prime importance for distinguishing and identifying individual cinematographic works.

Information necessary to implement a representation of cinematographic metadata in practice will be provided in prEN 15907.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard contains a comprehensive set of metadata elements for representing information about cinematographic works, their variants and manifestations. Detailed information on available media items, viewing requirements, and access conditions is not covered by this standard. However, elementary information concerning the availability of media items can be expressed.

This European Standard also provides some extension points for adding more detailed data types without violating conformance. The guiding principle here is that no information from existing filmographic records should be lost when these are expressed according to this standard.

## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 15836, *Information and documentation – The Dublin Core metadata element set*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1

#### **attribute**

(metamodel) characteristic of an object or entity

[ISO/IEC 11179-3]

### 3.2

#### **cinematographic work**

moving image creation of any length, in particular works of fiction, cartoons and documentaries, which is intended to be shown in cinemas or in one of the subsequent audio-visual windows

### 3.3

#### **database**

collection of data organized according to a conceptual structure describing the characteristics of the data and the relationships among their corresponding entities, supporting one or more application areas

[ISO/IEC 2382-1]

### 3.4

#### **data element**

unit of data for which the definition, identification, representation and permissible values are specified by means of a set of attributes

[ISO/IEC 11179-3]

### 3.5

#### **data model**

graphical and/or lexical representation of data, specifying their properties, structure and inter-relationships

[ISO/IEC 11179-3]

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