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I.S. EN ISO/IEC 15438:2010

Information technology - Automatic
identification and data capture
techniques - PDF417 bar code symbology
specification (ISO/IEC 15438:2006)

I.S. EN ISO/IEC 15438:2010

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English Version

**Information technology - Automatic identification and data
capture techniques - PDF417 bar code symbology specification
(ISO/IEC 15438:2006)**

Technologies de l'information - Techniques automatiques
d'identification et de capture des données - Spécifications
pour la symbologie de code à barres PDF417 (ISO/IEC
15438:2006)

Informationstechnik - Verfahren der automatischen
Identifikation und Datenerfassung - Spezifikation der
Strichcodesymbologie PDF417 (ISO/IEC 15438:2006)

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Foreword

The text of ISO/IEC 15438:2006 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1 "Information technology" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and has been taken over as EN ISO/IEC 15438:2010 by Technical Committee CEN/TC 225 "AIDC technologies" the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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I.S. EN ISO/IEC 15438:2010

**INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD**

**ISO/IEC
15438**

Second edition
2006-06-01

**Information technology — Automatic
identification and data capture
techniques — PDF417 bar code
symbology specification**

*Technologies de l'information — Techniques d'identification
automatique et de capture des données — Spécifications pour la
symbologie de code à barres PDF417*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO/IEC 15438 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 31, *Automatic identification and data capture techniques*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 15438:2001), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

The technology of bar coding is based on the recognition of patterns of bars and spaces of defined dimensions. There are various methods of encoding information in bar code form, known as symbologies, and the rules defining the translation of characters into bars and space patterns and other essential features are known as the symbology specification.

Manufacturers of bar code equipment and users of bar code technology require publicly available standard symbology specifications to which they can refer when developing equipment and application standards. It is the intent and understanding of ISO/IEC that the symbology presented in this International Standard is entirely in the public domain and free of all user restrictions, licences and fees.

Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture techniques — PDF417 bar code symbology specification

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the requirements for the bar code symbology known as PDF417. It specifies PDF417 symbology characteristics, data character encodation, symbol formats, dimensions, error correction rules, reference decoding algorithm, and a number of application parameters.

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/IEC 646:1991, *Information technology — ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*

ISO/IEC 8859-1, *Information technology — 8-bit single-byte coded graphic character sets — Part 1: Latin alphabet No. 1*

ISO/IEC 15415, *Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture techniques — Bar code print quality test specification — Two-dimensional symbols*

ISO/IEC 15424, *Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture techniques — Data Carrier Identifiers (including Symbology Identifiers)*

ISO/IEC 19762-1, *Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture (AIDC) techniques — Harmonized vocabulary — Part 1: General terms relating to AIDC*

ISO/IEC 19762-2, *Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture (AIDC) techniques — Part 2: Optically readable media (ORM)*

ISO/IEC 24723, *Information technology — Automatic identification and data capture techniques — EAN.UCC Composite bar code symbology specification*

AIM Inc. International Technical Standard: ITS/04-001, *Extended Channel Interpretations — Part 1: Identification Schemes and Protocols*¹

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