

Irish Standard I.S. EN ISO 19146:2010

# Geographic information - Cross-domain vocabularies (ISO 19146:2010)

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# EUROPEAN STANDARD NORME EUROPÉENNE EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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#### **English Version**

# Geographic information - Cross-domain vocabularies (ISO 19146:2010)

Information géographique - Vocabulaires interdomaines (ISO 19146:2010)

Geoinformation - Themenübergreifendes Vokabular (ISO 19146:2010)

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#### **Foreword**

This document (EN ISO 19146:2010) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 211 "Geographic information/Geomatics" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 287 "Geographic Information" the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2011, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2011.

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## I.S. EN ISO 19146:2010 INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 19146

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# **Geographic information — Cross-domain vocabularies**

Information géographique — Vocabulaires interdomaines



#### ISO 19146:2010(E)

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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.

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ISO 19146 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 211, Geographic information/Geomatics.

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#### Introduction

A common language is an essential prerequisite to effective communication. However, a simple knowledge of a language's vocabulary is insufficient to ensure communication integrity. A word can have several meanings depending on the context in which it is used. Similarly, a concept can be referenced by several words, each communicating a different connotation or level of emphasis.

The issues associated with the correct use of language extend far beyond day-to-day communication. Every field of endeavour, from engineering to cookery, has its own technical language and vocabulary. In order to participate in discussions on a subject, it is necessary to understand both the subject's terminology and the context in which it is to be used. The imprecise use of technical or professional language (for example, by using two terms interchangeably when, in fact, they have distinctly different connotations) gives rise to the same traps and dangers associated with the inappropriate use of a spoken language.

This International Standard establishes a methodology for cross-mapping technical vocabularies that have been adopted by industry-focussed geospatial communities (for example, geospatial communities supporting the transport or utilities industries). The processes relate to the unique identification of concepts and ensuring the existence of monosemic relations between concepts and designations. The methodology aims to ensure the consistent use of cross-mapping processes when associating disparate geospatial vocabularies and identifying synonyms.

It is not the objective of this International Standard to define an ontology or taxonomy for geographic information and geomatics. Its purpose is to provide rules for ensuring consistency when implementing cross-mapping processes. The rules, however, have been developed with regard to taxonomic and ontological concepts and with a view to enabling semantic interoperability. Their application to vocabulary cross-mapping, therefore, can be expected to provide input to any future ontology/taxonomy initiatives.

This International Standard applies the provisions of ISO 19135 to the registration of geospatial concepts. An online register of cross-mapped terminology entries, conforming to the requirements of ISO 19135, is associated with this International Standard. Administrative arrangements for the population and maintenance of the online register are beyond the scope of this International Standard. However, the provisions of ISO 19135 relating to the maintenance of registers apply.

This International Standard adopts terms and concepts that are taken from UML and terminology theory and practice. A cross-mapping between the two terminologies can be found in ISO/TR 24156:2008.

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