TECHNICAL REPORT

ISO/IEC TR 9573

First edition
1988-12-01

Information processing — SGML support facilities — Techniques for using SGML

Traitement de l'information — Facilités de support pour SGML — Techniques d'utilisation du SGML

Reference number
ISO/IEC/TR 9573 : 1988 (E)

Contents

Figures

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) together form a system for worldwide standardization as a whole. 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.

The main task of a technical committee is to prepare International Standards but in exceptional circumstances, the publication of a technical report of one of the following types may be proposed:

— type 1, when the necessary support within the technical committee cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts;

— type 2, when the subject is still under technical development requiring wider exposure;

— type 3, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example).

Technical reports of types 1 and 2 are subject to review within three years of publication, to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards. Technical reports of type 3 do not necessarily have to be reviewed until the data they provide are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

ISO/IEC/TR 9573, which is a technical report of type 3, was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*.

Information processing — SGML support facilities — Techniques for using SGML

0 Introduction

ISO 8879, *Information processing — Text and office systems — Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML)*, states the rules for the description and markup of documents for their publication and interchange. A basic document type, primarily for computer-assisted publishing, is provided as an example in clause E.1 of ISO 8879, but is not explained there. It is explained in this Technical Report to assist comprehension. Also given is a variety of examples on the use of SGML. Thus this Technical Report is complementary to ISO 8879, its principal purpose being to assist in the adoption of the language.

1 Scope and Field of Application

This Technical Report complements ISO 8879 by providing additional turorial information. It is not intended, and should not be regarded, as an extention, modification, or interpretation of ISO 8879. The SGML language contains a number of components, some of which are optional features. The tutorial information covers the main components of the language only; notably a discussion of LINK, CONCUR, and DATATAG is outside the scope of this Technical Report.

The intended audience is mainly document type designers already familiar with the basic concepts of SGML, but requiring more tutorial information on techniques for using SGML for various applications. Subclauses 5.3 and 8.4 are written in the style of a "User Guide" and can be used as a basis for end-user documentation. For an introductory tutorial on SGML the annexes of ISO 8879 can be used.

This Technical Report includes notes on the analysis of a document prior to the writing of a formal document type definition, and a series of examples.

The principal example is for a general document type, formally defined as an example in clause E.1 of ISO 8879. Others of a general nature are for letter and memorandum, spreadsheet, mathematics, and the mixing of text and graphics. Those for language applications include Scandinavian runes, Japanese, a European multilingual document, and mixing text in languages written from left to right and from right to left.

NOTE — Throughout this Technical Report terms like "is keyed in", and "with keyboarding" are used. This does not neccessarily imply that the markup is to be added explicitly by a user; for text entry one would expect structured, context sensitive, editors to be used, or the markup added by application programs, e.g. in the case of interchange of spreadsheets.

2 References

ISO 646, *Information processing — ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange.*

ISO 2022, *Information processing — ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets — Code extension techniques.*

ISO 4873, *Information processing — ISO 8-bit code for information interchange — Structure and rules for implementation.*

ISO 6937, *Information processing — Coded character sets for text communication.*

ISO 8632-2, *Information processing systems — Computer graphics — Metafile for the storage and transfer of picture description information — Part 2: Character encoding.*

ISO 8632-4, *Information processing systems — Computer graphics — Metafile for the storage and transfer of picture description information — Part 4: Clear text encoding.*

ISO 8859-6, *Information processing — 8-bit single-byte coded graphic character sets — Part 6: Latin/Arabic alphabet.*

ISO 8879, *Information processing — Text and office systems — Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML).*

ISO 9069, *Information processing — SGML support facilities — SGML Document Interchange Format (SDIF).*[1)]

ISO 9070, *Information processing — SGML support facilities — Registration procedures for public text owner identifiers.*[1)]

JIS X 0201 (formerly C 6220), *Code for Information Interchange.*

JIS X 0208 (formerly C 6226), *Code of the Japanese Graphic Character Set for Information Interchange.*

---

1) At present at the stage of draft.