

**BRITISH STANDARD**

**Collaborative production  
of architectural,  
engineering and  
construction  
information –  
Code of practice**

ICS 01.100.30; 35.240.10

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# Foreword

## Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI and came into effect on 31 December 2007. It was prepared by Technical Committee B/555, *Construction design, modelling and data exchange*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

## Supersession

This British Standard supersedes BS 1192-5:1998, which is withdrawn.

## Relationship with other publications

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The changes incorporated in this revised standard include:

- Management processes to support collaborative working.
- Extending controlled naming to files and directories, as well as layers and sub-models.
- Compatibility with BS EN 82045-2 and ISO 82045-5.
- Incorporation of BS ISO 12006-2 compliant classification tables, such as Uniclass.
- Recommendations for implementation of BS EN ISO 13567-2.

## Use of this document

As a Code of Practice, this British Standard takes the form of guidance and recommendations. It should not be quoted as if it were a specification and particular care should be taken to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

Any user claiming compliance with this British Standard is expected to be able to justify any course of action that deviates from its recommendations.

## Presentational conventions

The provisions in this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its recommendations are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “should”.

*Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.*

The word “should” is used to express recommendations of this standard. The word “may” is used in the text to express permissibility, e.g. as an alternative to the primary recommendation of the clause. The word “can” is used to express possibility, e.g. a consequence of an action or an event.

Notes and commentaries are provided throughout the text of this standard. Notes give references and additional information that are important but do not form part of the recommendations. Commentaries give background information.

**Contractual and legal considerations**

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

# Introduction

Collaboration between the participants in construction projects is pivotal to the efficient delivery of facilities. Organizations are increasingly working in new collaborative environments in order to achieve higher standards of quality and greater re-use of existing knowledge and experience. A major constituent of these collaborative environments is the ability to communicate, re-use and share data efficiently without loss, contradiction or misinterpretation.

Each year considerable resources are spent on making corrections to non-standard data, training new personnel in approved data creation techniques, co-ordinating the efforts of subcontractor teams and solving problems related to data reproduction.

The use of this standard is particularly applicable where technology enabled processes are used to support projects. These processes include:

- automation of drawing and document production processes;
- indexing and searching project material;
- filtering and sorting;
- quality checking and document comparisons.

Where the implementation of standards is adequately addressed, there are significant benefits to both the productivity of project teams and the profitability of the organization.

This standard applies to all construction project documentation. The set of project documents and each document within it are viewed as a hierarchy of named containers. It gives recommendations for structured names to convey information (meta-data) about the containers required for effective information management and exchange.

It is clear that standards and this British Standard in particular, are one way to enable project team members to work together more efficiently and accurately on construction projects. This standard enables increasing confidence in the use of a common naming convention and approach to collaborative working for use in architecture, engineering, construction and facilitates efficient data use in facilities management.

## 1 Scope

This standard establishes the methodology for managing the production, distribution and quality of construction information, including that generated by CAD systems, using a disciplined process for collaboration and a specified naming policy.

It is applicable to all parties involved in the preparation and use of information throughout the design, construction, operation and deconstruction throughout the project lifecycle and the supply chain.

The principles for information sharing and common modelling are equally applicable to building and civil projects.

This standard is also a guide for developers of software applications to enable them to support its implementation through the provision of configuration files or application add-ons.