

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Information and documentation—Digital  
object identifier system**



## **AS/NZS ISO 26324:2013**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee IT-019, Information and Documentation, Information Technology—Learning, Education, Training and Research. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 19 April 2013 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 8 April 2013.  
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The following are represented on Committee IT-019:

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Council of Australian University Librarians  
CSIRO Information and Communication Technologies Centre  
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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS ISO 26324.*

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Australian/New Zealand Standard™

# Information and documentation—Digital object identifier system

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee IT-019, Information and Documentation, Information Technology—Learning, Education, Training and Research.

The objective of this Standard is to specify the syntax, description and resolution functional components of the digital object identifier system, and the general principles for the creation, registration and administration of DOI names (where DOI is an acronym for ‘digital object identifier’)

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO 26324:2012, *Information and documentation—Digital object identifier system*.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

- (a) In the source text ‘this International Standard’ should read ‘this Australian/New Zealand Standard’.
- (b) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

None of the normative references in the source document have been adopted as Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards.

The term ‘normative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex to which it applies. A ‘normative’ annex is an integral part of a Standard.

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## INTRODUCTION

The digital object identifier [DOI®<sup>1)</sup>] system provides an infrastructure for persistent unique identification of objects of any type.

DOI is an acronym for “digital object identifier”, meaning a “digital identifier of an object” rather than an “identifier of a digital object”. In this International Standard, the term “digital object identifier” refers to the system defined in this International Standard unless otherwise stated. The DOI system was initiated by the International DOI Foundation in 1998, and initially developed with the collaboration of some participants in ISO/TC 46/SC 9. Due to its application in the fields of information and documentation and previous collaboration with some ISO/TC 46/SC 9 participants, it was introduced as a possible work item in 2004 and further developed from 2006 to 2010.

The DOI system is designed to work over the Internet. A DOI name is permanently assigned to an object to provide a resolvable persistent network link to current information about that object, including where the object, or information about it, can be found on the Internet. While information about an object can change over time, its DOI name will not change. A DOI name can be resolved within the DOI system to values of one or more types of data relating to the object identified by that DOI name, such as a URL, an e-mail address, other identifiers and descriptive metadata.

The DOI system enables the construction of automated services and transactions. Applications of the DOI system include but are not limited to managing information and documentation location and access; managing metadata; facilitating electronic transactions; persistent unique identification of any form of any data; and commercial and non-commercial transactions.

The content of an object associated with a DOI name is described unambiguously by DOI metadata, based on a structured extensible data model that enables the object to be associated with metadata of any desired degree of precision and granularity to support description and services. The data model supports interoperability between DOI applications.

The scope of the DOI system is not defined by reference to the type of content (format, etc.) of the referent, but by reference to the functionalities it provides and the context of use. The DOI system provides, within networks of DOI applications, for unique identification, persistence, resolution, metadata and semantic interoperability.

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1) DOI® is a registered trademark. Information concerning trademark issues can be found on ISO online webpage for the ISO 26324 Registration Authority at [http://www.iso.org/iso/maintenance\\_agencies.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/maintenance_agencies.html).

## AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

**Information and documentation—Digital object identifier system****1 Scope**

This International Standard specifies the syntax, description and resolution functional components of the digital object identifier system, and the general principles for the creation, registration and administration of DOI names (where DOI is an acronym for “digital object identifier”).

This International Standard defines the syntax for a DOI name, which is used for the identification of an object of any material form (digital or physical) or an abstraction (such as a textual work) where there is a functional need to distinguish it from other objects.

The DOI name does not replace, nor is it an alternative for, an identifier used in another scheme, such as the schemes defined by ISO/TC 46/SC 9. This International Standard describes how the DOI system can be used in conjunction with another identifier scheme (for example, to provide additional functionality, such as resolution, where this is not already available), and how the character string of that other scheme can be integrated into the DOI system through the DOI metadata record and/or the DOI syntax.

This International Standard does not specify specific technologies to implement the syntax, description and resolution functional components of the digital object identifier system.

**2 Normative references**

The following referenced document is 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.

Unicode Consortium. *The Unicode<sup>TM</sup> Standard*<sup>2)</sup>

**3 Terms and definitions**

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

**3.1****allowed value**

item which may be used as a value of an element

**3.2****application profile**

set of DOI names that share some common characteristics

**NOTE** A DOI application profile is a grouping mechanism for DOI names; the functional specification of the application profile includes a set of metadata, comprising the kernel metadata and additional information applicable to that particular genre of object and functional requirements. Each DOI name is associated with one or more application profiles.

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2) Available at: <http://www.unicode.org>. Unicode is a trademark of Unicode, Inc. The Unicode Standard imposes additional constraints on implementations of ISO/IEC 10646:2011.