

AS/NZS ISO 15836:2016

ISO 15836:2009

ISO 15836:2009/Cor.1:2009

AS/NZS ISO 15836:2016

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Information and documentation—  
The Dublin Core metadata element set**



## **AS/NZS ISO 15836:2016**

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 25 January 2016 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 21 January 2016.  
This Standard was published on 24 February 2016.

---

The following are represented on Committee IT-019:

Australian Computer Society  
Australian Library and Information Association  
Council of Australian University Librarians  
CSIRO  
Education and Communities, NSW  
Institute for Metadata Management  
La Trobe University  
National and State Libraries Australasia  
National Library of New Zealand  
Northern Territory Library  
Tertiary Library Networks  
University of Southern Queensland  
University of Waikato

---

### **Keeping Standards up-to-date**

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Web Shop at [www.saiglobal.com.au](http://www.saiglobal.com.au) or Standards New Zealand web site at [www.standards.co.nz](http://www.standards.co.nz) and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

For more frequent listings or notification of revisions, amendments and withdrawals, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand offer a number of update options. For information about these services, users should contact their respective national Standards organization.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Please address your comments to the Chief Executive of either Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand at the address shown on the back cover.

---

*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS ISO 15836:2015.*

---

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Information and documentation—  
The Dublin Core metadata element set**

Originated as AS/NZS ISO 15836:2004.  
Second edition 2016.

**COPYRIGHT**

© Standards Australia Limited/Standards New Zealand

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Australia) or the Copyright Act 1994 (New Zealand).

Jointly published by SAI Global Limited under licence from Standards Australia Limited, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001 and by Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6140.

## 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, to supersede AS/NZS ISO 15836:2004.

The objective of this Standard is to establish a standard for cross-domain resource description, known as the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set. Like RFC 3986, ISO 15836:2009 does not limit what might be a resource. This Standard also defines the elements typically used in the context of an application profile which constrains or specifies their use in accordance with local or community-based requirements and policies. However, it does not define implementation detail, which is outside the scope of ISO 15836:2009.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO 15836:2009, *Information and documentation—The Dublin Core metadata element set*, and its Corrigendum 1 (2009), which has been added at the end of the source text.

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 ‘informative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex to which it applies. An ‘informative’ annex is only for information and guidance.

## INTRODUCTION

The *Dublin Core Metadata Element Set* is a vocabulary of fifteen properties for use in resource description. The name “Dublin” comes from its original 1995 invitational workshop, which took place in Dublin, Ohio; “core” because its elements are broad and generic, usable for describing a wide range of resources.

The fifteen-element “Dublin Core” described in this International Standard is part of a larger set of metadata vocabularies and technical specifications maintained by the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI). The full set of vocabularies, *DCMI Metadata Terms* [DCMI-TERMS], also includes a set of resource classes, the *DCMI Type Vocabulary* [DCMI-TYPE]. The terms in DCMI vocabularies are intended to be used in combination with terms from other, compatible vocabularies in the context of application profiles and on the bases of the *DCMI Abstract Model* [DCAM].

In 2006, the DCMI Usage Board undertook an editorial review of terms in the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set (DCMES) in order to clarify intended semantics and bring the wording of their definitions and usage comments into line with the language of the *DCMI Abstract Model* [DCAM]. A set of proposed changes was posted for public comment from August 28 to September 25, 2006. A face-to-face Usage Board meeting in Manzanillo, Mexico, on September 30, 2006, resulted in the publication on December 18, 2006, of a decision text, a response to comments, and a revised terms documentation.

This revision of the original ANSI/NISO Z39.85 standard that was issued in 2001 corresponds to version 1.1 on the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative website that resulted from the editorial review and public comment period described above. All changes made to terms of the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set since 2001 have been reviewed by a DCMI Usage Board in the context of a *DCMI Namespace Policy* [DCMI-NAMESPACE]. The namespace policy describes how DCMI terms are assigned Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs) and sets limits on the range of editorial changes that may be already made to the labels, definitions and usage comments associated with existing DCMI terms.

NOTES

## AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

**Information and documentation—The Dublin Core metadata element set****1 Scope**

This International Standard establishes a standard for cross-domain resource description, known as the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set. Like RFC 3986, this International Standard does not limit what might be a resource.

This International Standard defines the elements typically used in the context of an application profile which constrains or specifies their use in accordance with local or community-based requirements and policies. However, it does not define implementation detail, which is outside the scope of this International Standard.

**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.

ANSI/NISO Z39.85:2007, *The Dublin Core Metadata Element Set*

DCAM, *DCMI Abstract Model*. Available at <http://dublincore.org/documents/abstract-model/>

**3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms****3.1 Terms and definitions**

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

**3.1.1****resource**

anything that might be identified

[RFC 3986, DCMI Abstract Model]

**3.1.2****lifecycle of a resource**

sequence of events that mark the development and use of a resource

**EXAMPLES** Conception of an invention, creation of a draft, revision of an article, publication of a book, acquisition by a library, transcription to magnetic disk, migration to optical storage, translation into English, and derivation of a new work (e.g. a movie).

**3.2 Abbreviated terms**

DCMI Dublin Core Metadata Initiative