

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Information and documentation—  
Format for information exchange**



## **AS/NZS ISO 2709:2013**

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.  
This Standard was published on 13 May 2013.

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The following are represented on Committee IT-019:

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Australian Library and Information Association  
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 2709.*

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First published as AS/NZS 2619:1998.  
Revised and designated AS/NZS ISO 2709:2013.

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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, to supersede AS/NZS 2619:1998, *Information and documentation—Format for information exchange*.

The objective of this Standard is to specify the requirements for a generalized exchange format which will hold records describing all forms of material capable of bibliographic description as well as other types of records. It does not define the length or the content of individual records and does not assign any meaning to tags, indicators or identifiers, these specifications being the functions of an implementation format.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO 2709:2008, *Information and documentation—Format for information exchange*.

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.

## AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

**Information and documentation—Format for information exchange****1 Scope**

This International Standard specifies the requirements for a generalized exchange format which will hold records describing all forms of material capable of bibliographic description as well as other types of records. It does not define the length or the content of individual records and does not assign any meaning to tags, indicators or identifiers, these specifications being the functions of an implementation format.

This International Standard describes a generalized structure, a framework designed specially for communications between data processing systems and not for use as a processing format within systems.

**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.

ISO/IEC 646:1991, *Information technology — ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*

ISO/IEC 6429:1992, *Information technology — Control functions for coded character sets*

ISO/IEC 10646:2003, *Information technology — Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)*

**3 Terms and definitions**

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

**3.1****character**

member of a set of elements used for the organization, control, or representation of data

**3.2****data field**

characters recording the descriptive content of the record

**3.3****directory**

index to the location of the fields within a record

**3.4****directory map**

set of parameters specifying the structure of the entries in the directory