

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Information technology—Multimedia
content description interface**

Part 2: Description definition language

AS/NZS 15938.2:2003

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee IT-001, Information Systems—Interconnection. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 22 April 2003 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 22 April 2003. It was published on 2 June 2003.

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee IT-001, Information Systems—Interconnection. This Standard is identical with and has been reproduced from ISO/IEC 15938-2:2002, *Information technology—Multimedia content description interface—Part 2: Description definition language*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide standardized core technologies allowing the description of audiovisual data content in multimedia environments.

This Standard is Part 2 of AS/NZS 15938, *Information technology—Multimedia content description interface*, which, when complete, will consist of the following:

- Part 1: Systems
- Part 2: Description definition language (this Standard)
- Part 3: Visual
- Part 4: Audio
- Part 5: Multimedia description schemes
- Part 6: Reference software
- Part 7: Conformance testing
- Part 8: Extraction and use of MPEG-7 descriptions

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ISO		AS	
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3166-1	Part 1: Country codes	2632.1	Part 1: Country codes
		AS/NZS	
		2632	Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions
3166-2	Part 2: Country subdivision code	2632.2	Part 2: Country subdivision code
		AS	
4217	Codes for the representation of currencies and funds	3759	Codes for the representation of currencies and funds
		AS/NZS	
8601	Data elements and interchange formats—Information interchange—Representation of dates and times	3802	Data elements and interchange formats—Information interchange—Representation of dates and times

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AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

Information technology — Multimedia content description interface —**Part 2:
Description definition language****1 Scope****1.1 Scope of this International Standard**

This International Standard specifies a metadata system for describing multimedia content. It specifies the Description Definition Language (DDL) that comprises part 2 of the standard (ISO/IEC 15938-2).

The goal of this part of the MPEG-7 International Standard is to specify a language that will enable MPEG-7 users and developers to:

- create valid MPEG-7 description schemes and descriptors;
- develop tools such as editors and parsers for processing descriptions, description schemes and descriptors;
- generate refinements, extensions and modifications to the DDL.

This International Standard describes the features of the DDL. It defines the syntax of the DDL constructs and datatypes and provides optional (informative) examples that illustrate the application of the DDL to the specification and instantiation of MPEG-7 descriptions.

1.2 Overview of Description Definition Language

This International Standard, known as the "Multimedia Content Description Interface", aims at providing standardized core technologies allowing the description of audiovisual data content in multimedia environments. This is a challenging task given the broad spectrum of requirements and targeted multimedia applications, and the broad number of audiovisual features of importance in such a context. In order to achieve this broad goal, the standard specifies:

- Descriptors (D): representations of Features, that define the syntax and the semantics of each feature representation;
- Description Schemes (DS), that specify the structure and semantics of the relationships between their components, which may be both Ds and DSs;
- A Description Definition Language (DDL), to allow the creation of new DSs and, possibly, Ds and to allow the extension and modification of existing DSs;
- System tools, to support multiplexing of description, synchronization issues, transmission mechanisms, file format, etc.

The DDL forms a core part of the MPEG-7 standard. It provides the solid descriptive foundation through which users can create their own Description Schemes and Descriptors. The DDL defines the syntactic rules to express and combine Description Schemes and Descriptors. According to the definition in the MPEG-7 Requirements Document [1] the DDL is

‘...a language that allows the creation of new Description Schemes and, possibly, Descriptors. It also allows the extension and modification of existing Description Schemes.’