

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Information and documentation—
International Standard Music Work Code
(ISWC)**

AS/NZS ISO 15707:2004

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee IT-019, Computer Applications—Information and Documentation. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 14 May 2004 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 21 May 2004. It was published on 8 July 2004.

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee IT-019, Computer Applications—Information and Documentation.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO 15707:2001, *Information and documentation—International Standard Music Work Code (ISWC)*.

The objective of this Standard is to specify a means of uniquely identifying a musical work. It standardizes and promotes internationally the use of a standard identification code so that musical works can be uniquely distinguished from one another within computer databases and related documentation and for the purposes of collecting societies involved in the administration of rights to such works.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ are used to define the application of the annex to which they apply. A normative annex is an integral part of a standard, whereas an informative annex is only for information and guidance.

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- (b) In the source text ‘this International Standard’ should read ‘this Australian/New Zealand Standard’.
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INTRODUCTION

The International Standard Musical Work Code (ISWC) system was developed by the member societies of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC). CISAC's purpose in creating an ISWC for musical works is to enable more efficient administration of rights to those works on a worldwide basis. The ISWC provides an efficient means of identifying musical works in computer databases and related documentation and for the exchange of information between rights societies, publishers, record companies and other interested parties on an international level.

AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

Information and documentation — International Standard Musical Work Code (ISWC)

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a means of uniquely identifying a musical work. It standardizes and promotes internationally the use of a standard identification code so that musical works can be uniquely distinguished from one another within computer databases and related documentation and for the purposes of collecting societies involved in the administration of rights to such works.

The International Standard Musical Work Code (ISWC) identifies musical works as intangible creations. It is not used to identify manifestations of or objects related to a musical work. Such manifestations and objects are the subject of separate identification systems, such as the International Standard Recording Code (ISRC) for sound recordings, the International Standard Music Number (ISMN) for printed music, and the International Standard Audiovisual Number (ISAN) for audiovisual works.

Guidelines for the use of ISWC are given in normative annex A.

2 Terms and definitions

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

2.1

check digit

added digit which may be used to verify the accuracy of a standard number through a mathematical relationship to the digits contained in that number

NOTE Adapted from ISO 7064:1983.

2.2

musical work

work composed of a combination of sounds, with or without accompanying text

2.3

work

distinct, abstract creation of the mind whose existence is revealed through one or more expressions (e.g. a performance) or manifestations (e.g. an object)

3 Construction of an ISWC

3.1 Basic construction

An ISWC consists of a prefix element followed by nine digits and a check digit, as follows:

- prefix element (1 character);
- work identifier (9 digits);
- check digit (1 digit).