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BSI Standards Publication

**Financial services — International
securities identification number (ISIN)**

**INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD**

**ISO
6166**

Eighth edition
2021-02

**Financial services — International
securities identification number (ISIN)**



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 68, *Financial services*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Reference data for financial services*.

This eighth edition cancels and replaces the seventh edition (ISO 6166:2013), which has been technically revised.

The main changes to the previous edition are as follows:

- clarification that the scope covers financial instruments as well as referential instruments;
- addition of new instrument types to which the ISIN code can be allocated (derivative products with EZ and ZZ prefix, baskets, emission allowances and carbon credits);
- addition of new minimum descriptive elements ([Annex B](#)).

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

With the rapid expansion of international business in financial instruments, there was a need for a universally applicable international securities identification number (ISIN).

No worldwide numbering system existed at the time of the publication of the first edition of this document. Countries with a developed financial market identified issues of securities by means of code numbers, which are without any significance outside the country concerned. Instruments of the same issue were identified by means of different numbers in the country where they were physically held, booked or both, with the result that the national numbers may not be applicable in cross-border transactions.

Because of its strong rationalization effect, an internationally applicable numbering system substantially facilitates and supports international business in financial instruments. Such a system is provided by this document. Since the publication of the first edition of this document, its scope has expanded from a focus on securities to a much broader range of financial instruments. In addition, since the publication of the first edition, the Registration Authority (RA) has relied on the work of national numbering agencies (NNAs) which play an integral role in this rationalization effort and in the implementation of this document.

In preparing this document, care has been taken to conserve the national systems to the maximum possible extent, not only because of the good routine and valuable experience collected in this field but also to facilitate the adoption of the worldwide system. Moreover, it provides a system which is easy to apply internationally and establishes an information network which ensures that the required information can be obtained worldwide immediately.

Financial services — International securities identification number (ISIN)

1 Scope

This document provides a uniform structure for the identification of financial instruments as well as referential instruments (see [Annex A](#)) using a unique identification code and associated minimum descriptive data (see [Annex B](#)).

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 3166 (all parts), *Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions*

ISO 4217, *Codes for the representation of currencies*

ISO 8601 (all parts), *Date and time format*

ISO 10962, *Securities and related financial instruments — Classification of financial instruments (CFI) code*

ISO 17442 (all parts), *Financial services — Legal entity identifier (LEI)*

ISO 18774, *Securities and related financial instruments — Financial Instrument Short Name (FISN)*

3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

international securities identification number

ISIN

alphanumeric code which uniquely identifies a specific financial or referential instrument

3.2

ISIN record

record which uniquely identifies a specific financial or referential instrument and consists of the ISIN and the minimum descriptive data elements

Note 1 to entry: For the minimum descriptive data elements, see [Annex B](#).

3.3

ISIN guidelines

document developed and maintained by the Registration Authority to promote a uniform process for allocation, registration and dissemination of the ISIN to the financial industry

3.4

issuer

<equities and entitlements> legal entity in which the instrument creates an interest

Note 1 to entry: See [Annex A](#).

3.5

issuer

<debt instruments> borrower

Note 1 to entry: In the case of debt instruments issued or created by an international branch of a legal entity, the branch is to be considered as the issuer, not the parent entity.

Note 2 to entry: See [Annex A](#).

3.6

issuer

<other instruments> legal entity that creates or administers the instrument

Note 1 to entry: In the case of shares or units in collective investment vehicles such as investment funds, mutual funds or hedge funds, the fund is to be considered as the issuer, not the fund management company. However, in the case of an insurance fund, an interest is created in the insurer, which therefore is the issuer. In the case of other instruments issued or created by an international branch of a legal entity, the branch is to be considered as the issuer, not the parent entity.

Note 2 to entry: See [Annex A](#).

3.7

negotiable

<legal ownership of financial instrument> readily transferable from one counterparty to another by delivery or endorsement

3.8

referential instrument

indicator used as a reference for financial instruments

EXAMPLE Baskets, commodities, currencies, indices and reference rates.

4 Principles

4.1 Constituents

The ISIN shall consist of the following (see [Annex E](#) for examples):

- a) A prefix using the alpha-2 country codes or reserved codes specified in the ISO 3166 series; "XS", "EZ" or "ZZ" as specified in [Annex A, Table A.1](#); or other prefixes as may be determined by the RA (refer to the RA website for a complete list of ISIN prefixes).
- b) The basic code, which is nine characters (alphanumeric) in length. Where the existing national code consists of nine characters, this code may be used. Where the existing national code consists of fewer than nine characters, this also may be used, but zeros shall be inserted in front of the national code. Where a national check digit exists, it shall be regarded as part of the basic code within the nine characters.
- c) A check digit, computed using the modulus 10 "double-add-double" formula as specified in [Annex C](#).

4.2 Instruments for which the ISIN is allocated

At a minimum, the ISIN is allocated to financial or referential instruments in the following list (see [Annex A](#)). It is allocated to these instruments with the following principles:

a) Equities, debt instruments, entitlements and structured products

The ISIN is allocated to the financial instrument regardless of whether or not it is negotiable. However, in the case of individual bank loans the ISIN is only allocated if the instrument is negotiable.

b) Derivatives

The ISIN is allocated to those instruments that are traded in their own right, regardless of whether or not the underlying instrument has been assigned an ISIN.

c) Referential instruments

The ISIN is allocated to these products, which are not financial instruments, when they are underlying or reference assets to financial instruments.

d) Other instruments (combined instruments, emission allowances and carbon credits, other assets)

For the groups “combined instruments” and “emission allowances and carbon credits”, the ISIN is allocated when they are traded or admitted to trading. The group “other assets (insurance policies, real estate deeds, etc.)” may in any case be identified by an ISIN.

The ISIN is allocated to these instruments regardless of the technology used for creating the respective instruments (e.g. both to instruments in paper form and to instruments in electronic form, including tokenized instruments).

4.3 Assignment of related codes

Whenever an ISIN is allocated to a financial or referential instrument, a CFI code (see ISO 10962) and an FISN (see ISO 18774) should also be assigned to the respective instrument.

5 Registration Authority (RA)

5.1 Name and contact details of the Registration Authority

The name and contact information of the RA for this document can be found at https://www.iso.org/maintenance_agencies.html.

Requests for information and enquiries about this document and its implementation can be directed to the RA.

5.2 Service provision

The RA is responsible for the provision of the following services:

- a) to promote and make all efforts to ensure the proper use of this document and to ensure the uniqueness and prevent the reuse of allocated ISIN codes;
- b) to support the production of ISINs and to ensure the initial distribution of the ISIN record (see [Annex B](#)) to users;
- c) to continuously adapt the ISIN guidelines for allocation and registration of ISINs to meet the needs of the market;
- d) to respond to enquiries and information requests related to this document in a timely manner.

6 ISIN allocation

6.1 General

The RA shall ensure that ISINs are allocated following the principles of [Clause 4](#) and in accordance with the details described in [Annex A](#).

ISINs shall be assigned in a timely manner in order to meet the market needs, as specified in [Annex D](#).

6.2 Descriptive elements

The RA shall ensure that a minimum set of descriptive elements is delivered for each financial or referential instrument to which an ISIN is assigned, as specified in [Annex B](#).

6.3 Existing ISINs and existing instruments without ISINs

All existing ISINs assigned in accordance with previous editions of this document shall remain unchanged. However, the allocation of ISINs for existing financial and referential instruments without ISINs shall be based on the most recent edition.

Annex A (normative)

Allocation of prefixes

Table A.1 — Allocation of prefixes

Category ^a	Type of issue	Prefix
Equities	Shares — ordinary, convertible, preferred, preference shares and others	Alpha-2 country code of the country where the issuer is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, has their legal domicile
	Depository receipts — representing equities	The rules applicable to the underlying equities also apply to this instrument type
Collective investment vehicles	Collective investment vehicles — shares or units in collective investment vehicles such as investment funds, unit trusts, mutual funds, hedge funds and exchange-traded funds	Alpha-2 country code of the country where the issuer is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, has their legal domicile
Debt instruments ^b	All debt instruments including Treasury bills — the depot of all such securities upon issuance is made with the Central Securities Depository (CSD) of one country	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the CSD
	— the depot of all such securities upon issuance is made with the CSD of more than one country or with an International Central Securities Depository (ICSD)	XS
	— private placements where there is no depot of such securities with a CSD or ICSD	Alpha-2 country code of the country where the issuer is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, has their legal domicile
	Stripped coupons and principal — official stripping (the stripping is made under the responsibility of the issuer)	The rules applicable to the underlying debt instruments also apply to official stripping
	— unofficial stripping (the stripping is made at the initiative of a third party other than the issuer)	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the entity that strips the issue
	Depository receipts — representing debt instruments	The rules applicable to debt instruments also apply to this instrument type
	Individual negotiable bank loans	Alpha-2 country code of the country where the borrower is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, has its legal domicile
Entitlements (rights)	Rights — allotment (bonus), subscription, purchase rights and others	Alpha-2 country code of the country where the issuer is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, has their legal domicile
	Warrants — not attached to debt instruments	Alpha-2 country code of the country where the issuer is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, has their legal domicile
	— originally issued with debt instruments	The rules applicable to debt instruments also apply to this instrument type

^a For the allocation of ISINs to financial or referential instruments not described in this annex, the RA shall make all efforts to ensure alignment with the scope of the CFI (ISO 10962) in the ISIN guidelines.

^b In the case of the allocation of ISINs to debt instruments issued by supranational institutions that are not residents of a country, additional allocation rules shall be defined in the ISIN guidelines maintained by the RA.

Table A.1 (continued)

Category ^a	Type of issue	Prefix
Derivatives	All derivative products	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the exchange issuing the specific derivative contract or EZ/ZZ (depending on the type of derivative contract according to the ISIN guidelines maintained by the RA)
Structured products	All structured products — the depot of all such securities upon issuance is made with one or more CSD(s) or there is no depot of all such securities upon issuance with a CSD or ICSD	Alpha-2 country code of the country where the issuer is legally registered or, in the absence of registration, has their legal domicile
	— the depot of all such securities upon issuance is primarily made with an ICSD	XS
Referential instruments	Baskets — groups of securities that have been put together for a specific investment purpose	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the administrator of the basket
	Commodities	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the exchange trading the commodity
	Currencies — as defined in ISO 4217	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the issuer. In case of cross rates, the prefix should correspond to the alpha-2 country code of the country of the issuer of the fixed currency of the ratio
	Indices — referential indices providing a representation of the value of their constituents, used as benchmarks in the financial sector and calculated by benchmark administrators	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the benchmark administrator
	Reference rates — referential interest rates, as defined by term and currency, used as interest rate benchmarks in the financial sector and calculated by benchmark administrators; or commodity reference rates used in the financial sector and calculated by relevant administrators	Alpha-2 country code of the country (or ISO 3166-1 reserved code of the jurisdiction) of the benchmark administrator or administrator of the reference rate
Other instruments	Combined instruments	Alpha-2 country code of the country of the issuer
	Emission allowances and carbon credits	For emission allowances issued for a specific trading scheme, alpha-2 country code of the country (or ISO 3166-1 reserved code of the jurisdiction) of the trading scheme; for project-related emission allowances, alpha-2 country code of the host country of the project
	Other assets	Discretion of the RA
^a For the allocation of ISINs to financial or referential instruments not described in this annex, the RA shall make all efforts to ensure alignment with the scope of the CFI (ISO 10962) in the ISIN guidelines.		
^b In the case of the allocation of ISINs to debt instruments issued by supranational institutions that are not residents of a country, additional allocation rules shall be defined in the ISIN guidelines maintained by the RA.		

Annex B (normative)

Minimum descriptive elements for each category or issue type

B.1 General

Table B.1 — Minimum descriptive elements for each category or issue type

	Equities: shares/ depository receipts	Collective investment vehicles	Debt instru- ments	Entitle- ments (rights)	Derivatives: products with the alpha-2 country code prefix	Derivatives: products with the EZ or ZZ prefix	Structured products	Referential instru- ments	Other in- stru- ments (see B.2)
ISIN	M	M	M	M	M	Defined by the ISIN guidelines maintained by the RA	M	M	M
FISN (ISO 18774)	M	M	M	M	M		M	M	M
CFI (ISO 10962)	M	M	M	M	M		M	M	M
Issue description	M	M	M	M	M		M	M	M
Issuer legal name	M	M	M	M	M		M	M	M
Issuer LEI (ISO 17442 series)	C	C	C	C	C		C	C	C
Head office name (only applicable for branch issuances)	C		C	C	C		C	C	C
Head office LEI (ISO 17442 series, only applicable for branch issuances)	C		C	C	C		C	C	C
Nominal value	C								
Currency (ISO 4217)	C	C	C	C	C		C	C	C
Interest			C						
Maturity (ISO 8601 series)			C	C	C	C	C		
Strike				C	C				
Call/put				C	C				
Underlying instrument	C		C	C	C		C		
ISIN of the underlying instrument	C		C	C	C		C		
Key									
M: Mandatory									
C: Conditional (i.e. to be delivered if applicable)									
Blank: Not applicable									

B.2 Data elements for other instruments

For other instruments (combined instruments, emission allowances and carbon credits, other assets), [Table B.1](#) defines the minimum descriptive elements to be delivered. Additional elements to be delivered (ranging from nominal value to ISIN of the underlying instrument) shall be governed by the ISIN guidelines maintained by the RA.

B.3 Issuer legal name, head office name and LEI data elements

The elements head office name and head office LEI are only applicable for instruments that are issued by an international branch of a legal entity. In these cases, the issuer legal name and the issuer LEI should match the name and LEI of the branch, while the head office name and head office LEI should match the name and LEI of the parent legal entity.

If an issuer LEI or head office LEI is provided, the issuer legal name and head office name should match the legal names as recorded in the reference data of the respective LEIs.

The conditional elements (“C”) for issuer LEI and head office LEI are only to be delivered if the respective entity has obtained an LEI.

B.4 Additional data elements for all instruments

Old and new ISIN after a change in ISIN code relating to corporate events warranting such a change as defined in the ISIN guidelines maintained by the RA: M.

Annex C (normative)

Formula for computing the modulus 10 “double-add-double” check digit

The following steps are involved in the calculation of the modulus 10 “double-add-double” check digit.

- a) Step 1: alphabetic characters are assigned the numeric values shown in [Table C.1](#).

Table C.1 — Numeric values of alphabetic characters

Character	Value								
A	10	F	15	K	20	P	25	U	30
B	11	G	16	L	21	Q	26	V	31
C	12	H	17	M	22	R	27	W	32
D	13	I	18	N	23	S	28	X	33
E	14	J	19	O	24	T	29	Y	34
								Z	35

- b) Step 2: double the value of alternate digits beginning with the first right-hand digit (low order), including zeros.
- c) Step 3: add the individual digits comprising the products obtained in step 2 and each of the unaffected digits in the original number.
- d) Step 4: subtract the total obtained in step 3 from the next higher number ending in 0 [this is the equivalent of calculating the “tens complement” of the low order digit (unit digit) of the total]. If the total obtained in step 3 is a number ending in zero (e.g. 30, 40), the check digit is 0.

EXAMPLE 1 IBEX 35 (ES0SI0000005)

E	S	0	S	I	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>14</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
21	21	2	12	12	1	2	1	2	1	2
24	48	0	216	116	0	0	0	0	0	0

$$2 + 4 + 4 + 8 + 0 + 2 + 1 + 6 + 1 + 1 + 6 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 35$$

Check digit	5
	40

EXAMPLE 2 Hitachi Ltd. Shares (JP3788600009)

J	P	3	7	8	8	6	0	0	0	0
<u>19</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
21	21	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
29	45	6	7	16	8	12	0	0	0	0

$$2 + 9 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 1 + 6 + 8 + 1 + 2 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 51$$

Check digit	9
	<hr/>
	60

EXAMPLE 3 Allianz Finance II 5 3/8 % without expiration date (DE000A0GNPZ3)

D	E	0	0	0	A	0	G	N	P	Z
<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>35</u>
12	12	1	2	1	21	2	12	12	12	12
16	18	0	0	0	20	0	112	26	210	310

$$1 + 6 + 1 + 8 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 2 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 2 + 2 + 6 + 2 + 1 + 0 + 3 + 1 + 0 = 37$$

Check digit	3
	<hr/>
	40

Annex D (normative)

Information requirements for ISIN allocation

In order to ensure the unique identification of the financial and referential instruments, the originator shall submit an application for allocation of an ISIN together with comprehensive documentation, i.e. relevant legal documents (e.g. prospectus, legal offering document, regulatory notification, term sheet). Where no legal documents are available, descriptive data elements shall be provided by the originator for derivative products with the alpha-2 country code prefix, referential instruments and others, including such additional information as may be requested. For the allocation of ISINs to derivative products with the EZ or ZZ prefix, templates of the required information shall be defined in the ISIN guidelines maintained by or on behalf of the RA.

Annex E (informative)

Examples

Table E.1 — Examples

Type	Issue description	Issuer or origin	Issuer's country	Initial securities depository	ISIN prefix	ISIN
Equities: shares	Com stk	Hitachi Ltd., Tokyo	JP	—	JP	JP3788600009
Equities: depositary receipts	Unilever NV	NEW YORK SHS NEW	NL	—	US	US9047847093
Collective investment vehicles: investment funds	Barings Emerging Markets Umbrella Fund	Global Emerging Markets I JPY INC	IE	—	IE	IE00BFXC1P95
Debt instruments: bonds	EO-Bonds 2006(11/Und.).	Allianz Finance II B.V.	NL	CSD	DE	DE000A0GNPZ3
Debt instruments: mortgage-backed securities	Short-term notes GBP RegS/Class A/NSS/Call/PRRED	Finsbury Square 2019–2 PLC	GB	ICSD	XS	XS2021448886
Debt instruments: medium term notes	Tranche # TR 00528 Dtd03/20/02	General Elec Cap Corp MediumTerm Nts Book Entry	US	CSD	US	US36962GXZ26
Debt instruments: official strips	Principal Certificate on Stripped Gvmt Bonds OAT 0 %250423 PPMT 8,5 %23 EUR 1	France Emprunt d'Etat	FR	CSD	FR	FR0000571077
Debt instruments: unofficial strips	Series 11-Stripped Coupon on 11,25 % 2015 Treasury Bond	EasyGrowth Treasury Receipts	US	CSD	US	US277847UB38
Debt instruments: depositary receipts	GDR Repstg GDN NGN T BILLS SER 144A 364D	Nigeria Federal Government	NG	CSD	US	US65412AEW80
Entitlements (rights): subscription rights	Members Eqty Sub Ent GBP	The Co-Operative Bank Holdings Ltd	GB	—	GB	GB00BF0FCW58
Entitlements (rights): purchase rights	Bon Sousc Per.Acq. Act 230922	Publicis Groupe S.A.	FR	—	FR	FR0000312928
Entitlements (rights): warrants	Call Warrant 18/12/2026 Bharat Petroleum Corp USD	Deutsche Bank AG [London Branch]	DE	—	DE	DE000DL3T7M1

Table E.1 (continued)

Type	Issue description	Issuer or origin	Issuer's country	Initial securities depository	ISIN prefix	ISIN
Derivatives: products with the alpha-2 country code prefix	Opción de Compra sobre Sdad Bol/ IBEX 35 - Vto. Marzo 2022 - Precio 9500	MEFF Sociedad Rectora Del Mercado De Productos Derivados, S.A.	ES	—	ES	ES0A02234250
Derivatives: products with the EZ or ZZ prefix	Rates Swap Fixed_Float 209 WEEK AUD-BBR-BBSW 3 MNTN 20251217	—	—	—	EZ	EZR9HY1361L7
Structured products: depot upon issuance not with ICSD	ZKB Tracker-Cert. 2012-Open End on ZKB Meinindex Nachhaltigkeit Pazifik Index	Zuercher Kantonalbank	CH	—	CH	CH0107166065
Structured products: depot with ICSD	Euro issued warrants USD50000	The Royal Bank of Scotland PLC	GB	ICSD	XS	XS0313614355
Referential instruments: baskets	EUREX REPO EO GC ECB EAD	Eurex Repo GmbH	DE	—	DE	DE000A0AE077
Referential instruments: commodities	Gold Coins Vreneli	Swiss National Bank	CH	—	CH	CH0002813860
Referential instruments: currencies	New Turkish Lira	Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey	TR	—	TR	TRLTCMB00045
Referential instruments: indices	IBEX 35	Sociedad de Bolsas, S.A.	ES	—	ES	ES0SI0000005
Referential instruments: reference rates	Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA)	Bank of England (Governor and Co of)	GB	—	GB	GB00B56Z6W79
Others: combined instruments	Stapled \$0.65 Loan Note and Unit US Prohibited	Spark Infrastructure Group	AU	—	AU	AU000000SKI7
Others: emission allowances and carbon credits	EU Allowance Units (EUA)	European Allowance Units (EUA)	BE	—	EU	EU000A1RRN98
Others: other assets	Gemischte-Police	Skandia Leben (FL)	LI	—	LI	LI0024807526

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