

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**ISO/IEC**  
**3788**

Second edition  
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**Information processing — 9-track, 12,7 mm  
(0,5 in) wide magnetic tape for information  
interchange using phase encoding at 126 ftpmm  
(3 200 ftpi) — 63 cpmm (1 600 cpi)**

*Traitement de l'information — Bande magnétique à 9 pistes, large de  
12,7 mm (0,5 in), pour l'échange d'information, codée en modulation de  
phase à 126 ftpmm (3 200 ftpi) — 63 cpmm (1 600 cpi)*



Reference number  
ISO/IEC 3788:1990(E)

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO/IEC 3788 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*.

Annex A forms an integral part of this International Standard. Annexes B and C are for information only.

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# Information processing — 9-track, 12,7 mm (0,5 in) wide magnetic tape for information interchange using phase encoding at 126 ftpmm (3 200 ftpi) — 63 cpmm (1 600 cpi)

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a format and recording standard for 9-track, 12,7 mm (0,5 in) magnetic tape to be used for data interchange between information processing systems, communication systems, and associated equipment utilizing the 7-bit coded character set (see ISO 646), its extension in ISO 2022 where required, or an 8-bit coded character set (see ISO 4873). Magnetic labelling for use on magnetic tape is the subject of ISO 1001. The magnetic tape and reel to be used shall conform to ISO 1864 and/or ISO 8064.

NOTE 1 Numeric values in the SI and/or Imperial measurement system in this International Standard may have been rounded off and therefore are consistent with, but not exactly equal to, each other. Either system may be used, but the two should be neither intermixed nor re-converted. The original design was made using the Imperial measurement system.

## 2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 646:1983, *Information processing — ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*.

ISO 1001:1986, *Information processing — File structure and labelling of magnetic tapes for information interchange*.

ISO 1864:1985, *Information processing — Unrecorded 12,7 mm (0,5 in) wide magnetic tape for information interchange — 32 ftpmm (800 ftpi) NRZ1, 126 ftpmm (3 200 ftpi) phase encoded and 356 ftpmm (9 042 ftpi) NRZ1*.

ISO 2022:1986, *Information processing — ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets — Coded extension techniques*.

ISO 4873:1986, *Information processing — ISO 8-bit code for information interchange — Structure and rules for implementation*.

ISO 8064:1985, *Information processing — Reels for 12,7 mm (0,5 in) wide magnetic tapes — Sizes 16, 18 and 22*.

## 3 Definitions

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

**3.1 magnetic tape:** A tape which will accept and retain magnetic signals intended for input, output and storage purposes on computers and associated equipment.

**3.2 reference tape:** A tape which has been selected for given properties for use in calibration.

**3.3 Master Standard Reference Tape:** A reference tape selected as a standard for signal amplitude.

NOTE 2 A Master Standard Reference Tape has been established by the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

**3.4 Secondary Standard Reference Tape:** A tape the performance of which is known and stated in relation to that of the Master Standard Reference Tape.