

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**INFORMATION PROCESSING—  
MAGNETIC TAPE CASSETTE  
AND CARTRIDGE LABELLING  
AND FILE STRUCTURE FOR  
INFORMATION INTERCHANGE**

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The following scientific, industrial and governmental organizations and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Australian Banks Payment Systems Committee  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Australian Computer Users Association  
Australian Public Service Board  
CSIRO, Division of Computing Research  
Department of Defence  
Life Insurance Federation of Australia  
Manufacturers of data processing equipment  
National Library of Australia  
Office Equipment Industry Association of Australia  
Public Service Board, New South Wales  
Qantas Airways Limited  
Telecom Australia  
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## PREFACE

This standard was prepared under the authority of the Association's Committee on Computers and Information Processing. It is identical with and has been reproduced from International Standard ISO 4341, drawn up by ISO/TC 97, Computers and Information Processing.

This standard specifies a 3-level system for labelling magnetic tape cassettes and cartridges. By providing magnetically recorded separators and labels, files can be structured and identified consistently, thus allowing free interchange between different data processing equipment.

For the purpose of this Australian standard, the text of ISO 4341 given herein should be modified as follows:

- (a) *Terminology*: The words 'Australian Standard' should replace the words 'International Standard' wherever they appear.
- (b) *Decimal comma*: The decimal point should replace the decimal comma wherever it appears.
- (c) *Cross references*: The references to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian standards as follows:

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>	<i>Appropriate Australian Standard</i>
ISO 646, 7-bit coded character set for information processing interchange,	AS 1776, Information processing—7-bit coded character set for information interchange
ISO 1001, Information processing—Magnetic tape labelling and file structure for information interchange	AS 1068, Information processing—Magnetic tape labelling and file structure for information interchange
ISO 3275, Information processing—Implementation of the 7-bit and 8-bit coded character set and its 7-bit and 8-bit extensions on 3,81 mm magnetic tape cassette for data interchange	AS 2356, Information Processing—Implementation of the 7-bit coded character set and its extensions
ISO 3407, Information processing—Information interchange on 3,81 mm (0.150 in) magnetic tape cassette at 4 cpmm (100 cpi), phase encoded at 63 ftpmm (1 600 ftpi)	AS 2412, Information processing—Information interchange on 3,81 mm (0.150 in) magnetic tape cassette at 4 cpmm (100 cpi), phase encoded at 64 ftpmm (1 600 ftpi)

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<b>CONTENTS</b>	Page
<b>0 Introduction</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>1 Scope and field of application</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2 References</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3 Definitions</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>4 Basic system</b> .....	<b>6</b>
4.1 Introduction .....	<b>6</b>
4.2 Use of tape marks .....	<b>6</b>
4.3 Structuring of files .....	<b>6</b>
4.4 Coincidence of end of file and intermediate start of track .....	<b>6</b>
4.5 Coincidence of end of file and intermediate end of track .....	<b>6</b>
4.6 End of available space .....	<b>7</b>
4.7 Recording density .....	<b>7</b>
4.8 By-pass and check-point records .....	<b>7</b>
<b>5 Compact system</b> .....	<b>8</b>
5.1 Introduction .....	<b>8</b>
5.2 Use of tape marks .....	<b>8</b>
5.3 Formats and contents of labels .....	<b>8</b>
5.4 Processing of label fields .....	<b>9</b>
5.5 Structuring the files .....	<b>9</b>
5.6 Recording density .....	<b>11</b>
5.7 By-pass and check-point records .....	<b>11</b>
<b>6 Extended system</b> .....	<b>12</b>
6.1 Introduction .....	<b>12</b>
6.2 Use of tape marks .....	<b>12</b>
6.3 Formats and contents of labels .....	<b>12</b>
6.4 Processing of label fields .....	<b>13</b>
6.5 Structuring the files .....	<b>13</b>
6.6 Use of optional labels .....	<b>14</b>
6.7 Recording density .....	<b>14</b>
6.8 By-pass and check-point records .....	<b>14</b>

## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

**Information processing — Magnetic tape cassette and cartridge labelling and file structure for information interchange****0 INTRODUCTION**

The aim of this International Standard is to make possible the interchange of information recorded on magnetic tape cassettes and cartridges between different users and different data processing and data capture equipment. This is accomplished by the arrangement of magnetically recorded separators and labels, to structure and identify the files.

To provide for the wide range of equipment and applications using magnetic tape cassettes, three systems of increasing complexity are specified. It is possible to distinguish between the three systems by reading the first block recorded on a particular volume.

In order that a cassette which carries more sophisticated labelling may be copied on unsophisticated equipment, the terminating conditions for end of track and end of data within a cassette are identical in all three of these systems. Thus, support of the basic system is a necessary requirement to ensure data interchangeability from simple data preparation devices to more complex data processing systems.

The third system is provided only for use in the most sophisticated environment, where ISO 1001 for magnetic tape labelling is already employed.

Throughout the whole of this International Standard, the use of the 7-bit coded character set specified in ISO 646 is implied.

NOTE—Whenever the word "cassette" is used, the word "cartridge" is also implied. It is felt that the illustrations and examples given for cassettes can readily be interpreted to cover similar situations for multi-track cartridges.

**1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION**

This International Standard specifies file structures for data interchange on magnetic tape cassettes.

To provide for the range of sophistication in equipment and applications, three systems are specified:

- a) the *basic* system, employing only hardware-defined separators to structure the files;
- b) the *compact* system, employing special data blocks with information content (labels), which are capable of being recorded using only numeric equipment;
- c) the *extended* system, employing the magnetic tape labelling system specified in ISO 1001 together with new labels, to define a more comprehensive labelling system.

This International Standard is not limited to the 3,81 mm magnetic tape cassette described in ISO 3407 but could also be applied to higher capacity cassettes or cartridges.

**2 REFERENCES**

ISO 646, *7-bit coded character set for information processing interchange*.

ISO 1001, *Information processing—Magnetic tape labelling and file structure for information interchange*.

ISO 3275, *Information processing—Implementation of the 7-bit coded character set and its 7-bit and 8-bit extensions on 3,81 mm magnetic tape cassette for data interchange*.

ISO 3407, *Information processing — 3,81 mm (0.150 in) magnetic tape cassette for information interchange, 32 b/mm (800 bpi), phase encoded*.