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Australian Standard®

Information processing—SGML support facilities—Techniques for using SGML

Part 1: SGML tutorial

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PREFACE

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8632-2	Part 2: Character encoding	3603.2	Part 2: Character encoding
8632-4	Part 4: Clear text encoding	3603.4	Part 4: Clear text encoding
8859	Information processing—8-bit single-byte coded graphic character sets	—	
8859-6	Part 6: Latin/Arabic alphabet	—	
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9069	Information processing—SGML support facilities—SGML Document Interchange Format (SDIF)	—	
9070	Information processing—SGML support facilities—Registration procedures of public text owner identifiers	—	
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0 Introduction

ISO 8879, *Information processing — Text and office systems — Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML)*, states the rules for the description and markup of documents for their publication and interchange. A basic document type, primarily for computer-assisted publishing, is provided as an example in clause E.1 of ISO 8879, but is not explained there. It is explained in this Technical Report to assist comprehension. Also given is a variety of examples on the use of SGML. Thus this Technical Report is complementary to ISO 8879, its principal purpose being to assist in the adoption of the language.

1 Scope and Field of Application

This Technical Report complements ISO 8879 by providing additional turorial information. It is not intended, and should not be regarded, as an extention, modification, or interpretation of ISO 8879. The SGML language contains a number of components, some of which are optional features. The tutorial information covers the main components of the language only; notably a discussion of LINK, CONCUR, and DATATAG is outside the scope of this Technical Report.

The intended audience is mainly document type designers already familiar with the basic concepts of SGML, but requiring more tutorial information on techniques for using SGML for various applications. Subclauses 5.3 and 8.4 are written in the style of a "User Guide" and can be used as a basis for end-user documentation. For an introductory tutorial on SGML the annexes of ISO 8879 can be used.

This Technical Report includes notes on the analysis of a document prior to the writing of a formal document type definition, and a series of examples.

The principal example is for a general document type, formally defined as an example in clause E.1 of ISO 8879. Others of a general nature are for letter and memorandum, spreadsheet, mathematics, and the mixing of text and graphics. Those for language applications include Scandinavian runes, Japanese, a European multilingual document, and mixing text in languages written from left to right and from right to left.

NOTE — Throughout this Technical Report terms like "is keyed in", and "with keyboarding" are used. This does not neccessarily imply that the markup is to be added explicitly by a user; for text entry one would expect structured, context sensitive, editors to be used, or the markup added by application programs, e.g. in the case of interchange of spreadsheets.

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