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Australian Standard®

Computer graphics—Programmer's hierarchical interactive graphics system (PHIGS)

Part 3: Clear-text encoding of archive file

[ISO/IEC title: Information Processing Systems—Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS)—Part 3: Clear-text Encoding of Achive File]

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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ACADS

Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Computer Related Graphics. It is identical with, and has been reproduced from International Standard ISO/IEC 9592-3: 1989, *Information processing systems—Computer graphics—Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (PHIGS)*—Part 3: *Clear-textt encoding of archive file.*

For the purpose of this Australian Standard, the text of the ISO/IEC Standard should be modified as follows:

(a) *Terminology*—The words 'Australian Standard' should replace the words 'Inernational Standard' wherever they apply.

(b) *References*—The references to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian Standards as follows:

Reference to International Standard	*Australian Standard*
ISO	AS
646 Information processing—ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange	1776 Information processing—7-bit coded character set for information interchange
2022 Information processing—ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded sets—Code extension techniques	1953 Information processing—ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets—Code extension techniques
8632 Information processing systems—Computer graphics—Metafiles for transfer and storage of picture description information	3603 Computer graphics—Metafiles for transfer and storage of picture description information
Part 1: Functional specifications	Part 1: Functional specifications
Part 2: Character encoding	Part 2: Character encoding
Part 3: Binary encoding	Part 3: Binary encoding
Part 4: Clear-text encoding	Part 4: Clear-text encoding

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Computer graphics—Programmer's hierarchical interactive graphics system (PHIGS)—Part 3: Clear-text encoding or archive file

0 Introduction

0.1 Purpose of PHIGS archive file clear-text encoding

The Clear-Text Encoding of the PHIGS archive file provides a representation of the archive file syntax that is easy to type, edit, and read. It allows an archive file to be edited with any standard text editor, using the internal character code of the host computer system.

0.2 Primary objectives

a) HUMAN EDITABLE: The clear-text encoding should be able to be hand-edited or, if desired, hand-constructed.

b) HUMAN-FRIENDLY: The clear-text encoding should be easy and natural for people to read and edit. Although what is easiest and most natural is a subjective judgement that varies among users, contributing factors such as ease of recognition, ease of remembering, avoidance of ambiguity, and prevention of mistyping have all been considered.

c) MACHINE-READABLE: The clear-text encoding should be able to be parsed by software.

d) USABLE IN A WIDE VARIETY OF EDITORS: The clear-text encoding should not have any features that make it difficult to edit in normal text editors.

e) INTERCHANGEABLE BETWEEN DIVERSE SYSTEMS: The clear-text encoding should be encoded in such a way as to maximize the set of systems which can utilize it. No assumptions should be made as to word size or arithmetic modes used to interpret the archive file.

f) USES STANDARDIZED ABBREVIATIONS: Where language encoding of other graphics standards have established standard abbreviations, or where common practice in the data processing and graphics industries has established well-known abbreviations, these abbreviations are used. In accordance with the principle of "least astonishment", this approach should minimize the time needed to learn to use this encoding.