

AS 3649—1990  
ISO 9069: 1988

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Information processing—SGML  
support facilities—SGML  
document interchange format  
(SDIF)**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee IT/1, Information Systems—Interconnection. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 16 November 1989 and published on 26 January 1990.

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The following interests are represented on Committee IT/1:

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Australian Committee of Directors and Principals  
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First published as AS 3649—1990.

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Information Processing Systems. It is identical with and has been reproduced from International Standard ISO 9069: 1988.

The Standard is one of a series of Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Standards which are currently under development. Since OSI Standards are developmental, there may be some minor difficulties encountered in their implementation. For this reason, Standards Australia will be providing a limited interpretation service to coordinate and disseminate information concerning difficulties which are identified in using this Standard.

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

- (a) *Terminology.* The words 'Australian Standard' should replace the words 'International Standard' wherever they appear.
- (b) *References.* The references to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian Standards as follows:

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>	<i>Australian Standard</i>
ISO	AS
2022 Information processing—ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets—Code extension techniques	1953 Information processing—ISO 7-bit and 8-bit coded character sets—Code extension techniques
8824 Information processing systems—Open Systems Interconnection—Specification of Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)	—
8825 Information processing systems—Open Systems Interconnection—Specification of basic encoding rules for Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)	—
8879 Information processing—Text and office systems—Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML)	3514 Information processing—Text and office systems—Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML)

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# Information processing—SGML support facilities— SGML document interchange format (SDIF)

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a data structure known as the SGML Document Interchange Format (SDIF). SDIF enables a document conforming to ISO 8879, which might be stored in several entities, to be packed into a data stream for interchange in a manner that will permit the recipient to reconstitute the separate entities.

SDIF also allows related documents to be included in the data stream, such as covering letters, transmittal forms, catalog cards, formatting procedures, or the “document profile” required by a document architecture.

## 2 Field of application

The SGML Document Interchange Format shall be used solely for the interchange of SGML documents, as defined in ISO 8879, among SGML systems.

Interchange can be by means of data communications in Open Systems Interconnection or other environments, or by the exchange of storage media.

## 3 References

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

ISO 8879, *Information processing — Text and office systems — Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML)*.

This International Standard uses formal syntax productions to define SDIF precisely. These are expressed in ASN.1, which is defined in the following International Standards:

ISO 8824, *Information processing systems — Open Systems Interconnection — Specification of Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)*.

ISO 8825, *Information processing systems — Open Systems Interconnection — Specification of basic encoding rules for Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)*.

## 4 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the definitions used in ISO 8879, and the following definitions, apply.

**4.1 data stream character set:** The character set used for all document markup in an SDIF data stream and for all SDIF names and SDIF identifiers.

**4.2 document descriptor:** A component of an SDIF data stream that contains an SGML document entity and entity descriptors for all external entities that are directly or indirectly referenced from it.

**4.3 document profile:** A transmittal form defined by a document architecture or application, that describes the characteristics of a conforming document that are relevant to its management or interchange.