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Information technology — Topic Maps —

Part 5: Reference model

Technologies de l'information — Plans relatifs à des sujets —

Partie 5: Modèle de réference

Reference number
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Foreword

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

ISO/IEC 13250-5 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 34, *Document description and processing languages.*

ISO/IEC 13250 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Topic Map*:

— *Part 2: Data model*

— *Part 3: XML syntax*

— *Part 4: Canonicalization*

— *Part 5: Reference model*

— *Part 6: Compact syntax*

Introduction

The Topic Maps family of standards is designed to facilitate the gathering of all the information about a subject at a single location. The information about a subject includes its relationships to other subjects; such relationships may also be treated as subjects (subject-centric).

ISO/IEC 13250-2:2006 [1] provides a foundation for syntaxes and notations, such as those defined in ISO/IEC 13250-3 Topic Maps XML Syntax [2] and ISO/IEC 13250-4 Topic Maps Canonicalization [3]. Of necessity, ISO/IEC 13250-2:2006 [1] makes ontological commitments in terms of how particular subjects are identi_ed (topics, associations, occurrences), what properties are required, the tests to be used to determine whether two or more proxies represent the same subject, and other matters.

This part of ISO/IEC 13250 defines TMRM (Topic Maps Reference Model), which is more abstract and has fewer ontological commitments. Its purpose is to serve as a minimal, conceptual foundation for subject-centric data models such as ISO/IEC 13250-2:2006 [1], and to supply ontologically neutral terminology for disclosing these. It de_nes what is required to enable the mapping of different subject-centric data models together to meet the overall goal of the Topic Maps standards, that each subject has a single location for all the information about it.

TMRM also provides a formal foundation for related Topic Maps standards such as the ISO/IEC 19756 Topic Maps Constraint Language (TMCL) [4].

Information technology — Topic Maps — Part 5: Reference Model

1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 13250 specifies a formal model for subject maps, minimal access functionality and information retrieval from subject maps and a constraint framework governing the interpretation of subject maps.

Particular formalisms to constrain subject maps are not covered by this part of ISO/IEC 13250.