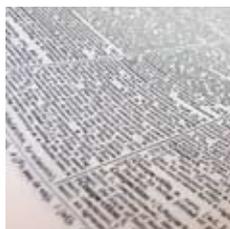


New tool for standards development and use of standards

The ISO Concept Database (ISO/CDB)



In recent years, many ISO committees have established databases to store and administer structured concept items from their standards or standards under development, such as

- Terms and definitions
- Graphical symbols
- Codes (language, country, currency etc.)
- Units of measurement
- Product properties
- Data dictionaries of various types, and others.

However, until now, no platform was available to bring together in a single source the content from more than 18 000 ISO standards.

To address this challenge, the ISO Central Secretariat has developed a new application, called the **ISO Concept Database (ISO/CDB)**, which provides a harmonized platform for search, development and maintenance of such content.

The ISO/CDB allows to **search for concepts** in more than 18 000 ISO standards. Initially, three important categories of concepts will be covered: **Terms and Definitions**, **Graphical Symbols** and **Codes** (country, currency, language and script). Additional categories will be included in due course.

The ability to search and compare concepts from the complete collection of ISO standards is expected to:

- Help ISO committees in the **development and maintenance of** their standards
- Contribute to increasing the **consistency among standards**.

The case of **terms and definitions** gives a clear example of the added value of the ISO/CDB. Through this application, standards experts will be able to access and compare all the instances of terms and definitions used by all ISO committees (either as a single word, or as a combination of words). This will enhance access to, and sharing of, knowledge. This will in turn help to **improve content quality**, and prevent duplications or inconsistencies.

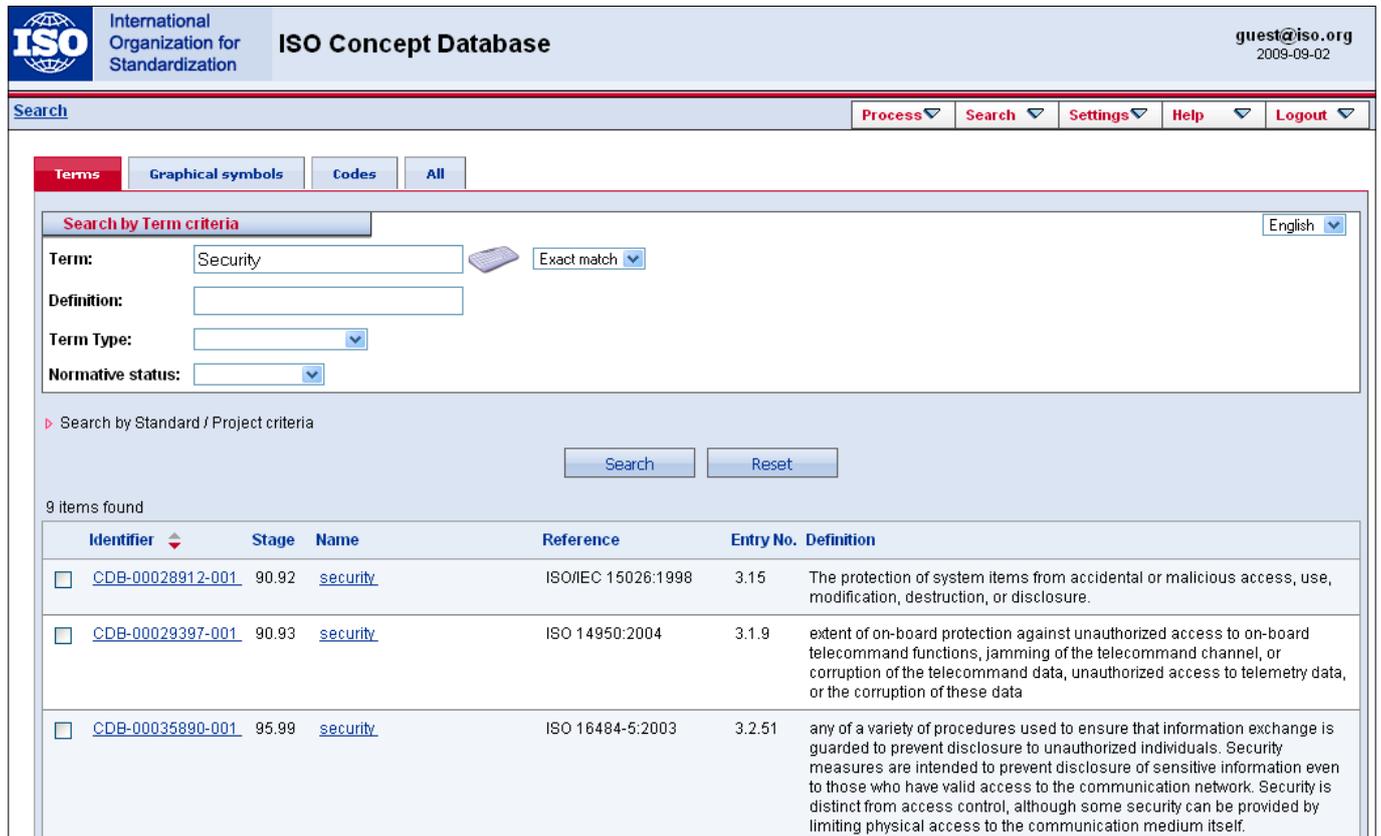
Furthermore, the ISO/CDB will allow end users in companies or other organizations to easily **access standardized reference data**, with the possibility of **re-using them in their own applications**.

The application will also allow ISO committees to develop and maintain concept items included in standards, helping to **further reduce time** in the development of new standards and in the review of existing ones.

■ Release of the ISO/CDB

The **first release** of the application will be in **October 2009**. Access to the ISO/CDB content, in a read-only mode, is open to all and free of charge. The download of content from the ISO/CDB is charged, on a item-by-item or subscription basis.

A **second release**, planned for end 2009, will incorporate workflow features that allow committees to develop and maintain concept items, according to the procedure approved by the ISO Technical Management Board (TMB) for standards in database format.



The screenshot shows the ISO Concept Database search interface. The top navigation bar includes the ISO logo, 'International Organization for Standardization', 'ISO Concept Database', and 'guest@iso.org 2009-09-02'. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with a 'Search' button and a dropdown menu for 'Process Search Settings Help Logout'. The search results are displayed in a table with columns: Identifier, Stage, Name, Reference, Entry No., and Definition. Three results are shown for the term 'Security'.

Identifier	Stage	Name	Reference	Entry No.	Definition
CDB-00028912-001	90.92	security	ISO/IEC 15026:1998	3.15	The protection of system items from accidental or malicious access, use, modification, destruction, or disclosure.
CDB-00029397-001	90.93	security	ISO 14950:2004	3.1.9	extent of on-board protection against unauthorized access to on-board telecommand functions, jamming of the telecommand channel, or corruption of the telecommand data, unauthorized access to telemetry data, or the corruption of these data
CDB-00035890-001	95.99	security	ISO 16484-5:2003	3.2.51	any of a variety of procedures used to ensure that information exchange is guarded to prevent disclosure to unauthorized individuals. Security measures are intended to prevent disclosure of sensitive information even to those who have valid access to the communication network. Security is distinct from access control, although some security can be provided by limiting physical access to the communication medium itself.

Terms and definitions.



The screenshot shows a detailed view of a graphical symbol entry in the ISO Concept Database. The entry is for 'Fire extinguisher' (ISO 7810:2002). It includes a reference to ISO 7810:2002, a title 'Fire extinguisher', and a graphical symbol of a fire extinguisher. The entry also includes a definition: 'A portable, ready-to-use extinguisher which is used to extinguish or control a fire.' The interface also shows a 'Reference' section with the ISO 7810:2002 standard and a 'Description' section with the entry number and registration number.

Detailed view of a graphical symbol entry.

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