

# SVENSK STANDARD

## SS-ISO 19155:2012



Fastställt/Approved: 2012-12-17

Publicerad/Published: 2012-12-27

Utgåva/Edition: 1

Språk/Language: engelska/English

ICS: 07.040; 35.240.01; 35.240.30; 35.240.50; 35.240.60; 35.240.70; 35.240.99

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### **Geografisk information – Arkitektur för platsidentifierare (PI) (ISO 19155:2012, IDT)**

### **Geographic information – Place Identifier (PI) architecture (ISO 19155:2012, IDT)**

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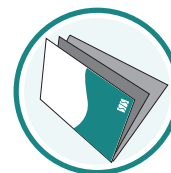
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The International Standard ISO 19155:2012 has the status of a Swedish Standard. This document contains the official version of ISO 19155:2012.

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## SS-ISO 19155:2012 (E)

### Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 19155 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 211, *Geographic information/Geomatics*.

## Introduction

The rapid development of information technology has blurred the boundaries between the real and virtual worlds in such a way that they cannot easily be disassociated from each other. Humans can reference places in both worlds and easily differentiate between them. However for computers to clearly differentiate these places, a set of matched linkages between them are required.

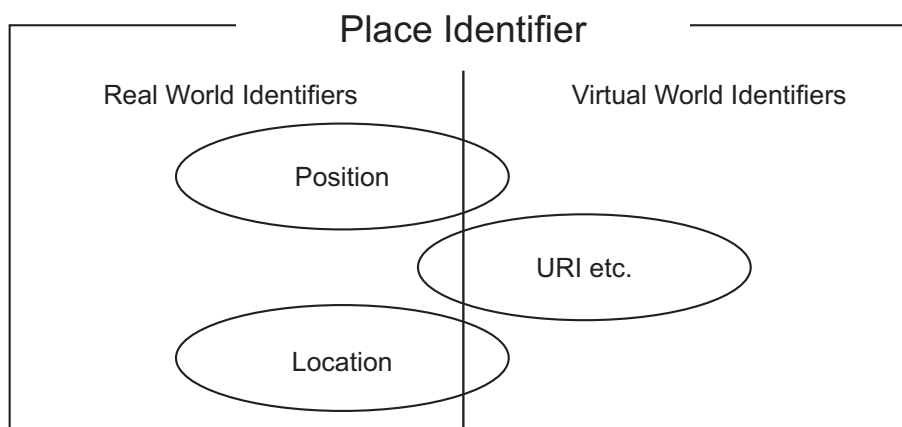
In the discipline of geography, space normally refers to the surface of the earth. However, in other disciplines, space can refer to different paradigms. In architecture, space may be the extent of a room or a building. In mathematics, space is defined as a set having structure. In the context of the World Wide Web space is defined by URLs/URIs that identify web pages.

Within this International Standard “space” is considered as a set having structure, in which a position or location identifies an element.

Currently, within the domain of ISO/TC 211, standards exist for precise positioning and locating using either coordinates or geographic identifiers. However, the concept of place is broader than both position and location. A “place” is referred to as a “position” when that place is identified using coordinates. Similarly, a “place” is referred to as a “location” when that place is identified using geographic identifiers. However, existing standards defined by ISO/TC 211 do not provide a mechanism for the representation of a virtual “place” such as a website, or a construct acting as a “common base” which can be used to refer to the other types of identifiers.

Within this International Standard, “place” is defined as an identifiable part of any space. This may include “places” existing not only in the real world but also those in the virtual world. Places are identified using either “position” by coordinates, “location” by geographic identifiers, or “virtual world identifiers” such as a URI.

In this International Standard, the identifier of a place is referred to as a Place Identifier (PI). A single “place” may be identified using several separate Place Identifiers. Clarification of these relationships is shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1 — Relationships among place, position, location and URI**

Place descriptions are used for information retrieval. In reality, those identifiers often refer to the same place. Currently these relationships are difficult for machines to correctly distinguish, which impedes the discovery and retrieval of information. The conceptual architecture and reference model defined in this International Standard provides a mechanism for solving these problems.

When implemented, this architecture would enable the access and sharing of place descriptions using the Place Identifier as the standardized method.

Within the reference model, place descriptions are defined using a PI. A PI consists of a reference system (RS), a value, and the valid temporal period of that value.

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The internal format and content of the value are determined by each community or domain. The content of the values are not subject to any kind of standardization or unification by this International Standard. The RS is also defined by each community, and should be unique across multiple communities. Subsequently, Place Identifiers are unique within each RS. However, the values of the Place Identifiers may be similar or even identical across multiple communities. This distributed concept ensures that each community would maintain their own Place Identifiers. Well formed Place Identifiers may be shared between communities.

Instead of specifying a framework for a globally unique type of identifier, the key idea of the architecture defined in this International Standard enables the original place descriptions to be easily maintained, without requiring difficult conversions and cross-community harmonization.

An encoding scheme based on Geography Markup Language (GML) (ISO 19136:2007) is normatively defined in this International Standard. In addition, a group of alternate encoding schemes are presented as informative annexes. Depending on the encoding method of choice, globally unique Place Identifiers may be created resulting from the requirements of the encoding method used.

Methods for the conversion of “located features” to Place Identifiers are not covered within the scope of this International Standard. While the direct relationship with the PI Architecture and other Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) is not explained, an implementation of the PI Architecture can be considered part of an SDI. Various constructs, such as registries and databases, may be used to store Place Identifiers. The flexible structure of the Place Identifier will allow for data stored in common GI systems to be easily registered as Place Identifiers, however, the design and implementation of those procedures is out of scope of this International Standard.



# Geographic information — Place Identifier (PI) architecture

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies an architecture that defines a reference model with an encoding method for an identifier of a place. The concept of “place” within this International Standard includes “places” not only in the real world but also those in the virtual world. These “places” are identified using either coordinate identifiers, geographic identifiers, or virtual world identifiers such as URI. In this International Standard, an identifier of a place is referred to as a Place Identifier (PI).

The reference model defines a mechanism to match multiple Place Identifiers to the same place. In addition, a data structure and set of service interfaces are also defined in this reference model.

This International Standard is applicable to location based services, emergency management services and other application domains that require a common architecture, across specific domains, for the representation of place descriptions using coordinate, geographic, or virtual world identifiers.

This International Standard is not about producing any kind of specific place description, nor about defining a unique, standardized description of defined places, such as an address coding scheme.

## 2 Conformance

### 2.1 Conformance clause

This International Standard specifies four conformance classes. The following conformance clauses should be followed in order to meet the requirements of this International Standard.

### 2.2 Conformance tests for Semantics

To conform to this International Standard, instances of PI\_PlaceIdentifier, PI\_ReferenceSystem, PI\_MatchingTable, and PI\_MatchedPISet shall satisfy the requirements of A.1.

### 2.3 Conformance tests for Data

To conform to this International Standard, data stored in the PI matching table and the reference system shall satisfy the requirements of A.2.

### 2.4 Conformance tests for Services

To conform to this International Standard, interfaces between services and users that the PI matching service and the reference system service implement shall satisfy the requirements of A.3.

### 2.5 Conformance tests for PI encoding

To conform to this International Standard, encoded instances of PI\_PlaceIdentifier shall satisfy the requirements of A.4.

## 3 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

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ISO/TS 19103:2005, *Geographic Information — Conceptual schema language*

ISO 19111:2007, *Geographic information — Spatial referencing by coordinates*

ISO 19112:2003, *Geographic information — Spatial referencing by geographic identifiers*

ISO 19136:2007, *Geographic information — Geography Markup Language*

### 4 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

#### 4.1 client

software component that can invoke an operation from a *server* (4.16)

[ISO 19128:2005, 4.1]

#### 4.2 coordinate

one of a sequence of  $n$  numbers designating the position of a point in  $n$ -dimensional space

[ISO 19111:2007, 4.5]

NOTE In a *coordinate reference system* (4.4), the coordinate numbers are qualified by units.

#### 4.3 coordinate operation

change of *coordinates* (4.2), based on a one-to-one relationship, from one *coordinate reference system* (4.4) to another

[ISO 19111:2007, 4.7]

NOTE Supertype of coordinate transformation and coordinate conversion.

#### 4.4 coordinate reference system

*coordinate* (4.2) system that is related to an object by a datum

[ISO 19111:2007, 4.8]

NOTE For geodetic and vertical datums, the object will be the Earth.

#### 4.5 gazetteer

directory of instances of a class or classes of features containing some information regarding position

[ISO 19112:2003, 4.2]

NOTE The positional information need not be *coordinates* (4.2), but could be descriptive.

#### 4.6 geographic identifier

*spatial reference* (4.19) in the form of a label or code that identifies a location

[ISO 19112:2003, 4.3]

EXAMPLE 'Spain' is an example of a country name; 'SW1P 3AD' is an example of a postcode.

#### 4.7

##### **interface**

named set of operations that characterize the behaviour of an entity

[ISO 19119:2005, 4.2]

#### 4.8

##### **place**

identifiable part of any space

#### 4.9

##### **Place Identifier**

##### **PI**

reference that identifies a *place* (4.8)

NOTE The same *place* may be referenced by multiple *Place Identifier* (4.9) instances. Each instance will be associated with a different reference system.

#### 4.10

##### **Place Identifier application**

##### **PI application**

application providing *services* (4.17) that use *Place Identifiers* (4.9) to end *users* (4.21) or other applications

#### 4.11

##### **Place Identifier matching**

##### **PI matching**

matching of a *Place Identifier* (4.9) specifying a *place* (4.8) with another type of PI identifying the same place

NOTE 1 A source PI can be matched with multiple target *Place Identifiers*.

NOTE 2 *PI matching* (4.11) can be made among *coordinates* (4.2), *geographic identifiers* (4.6) and identifiers in the virtual world such as URI.

#### 4.12

##### **Place Identifier platform**

##### **PI platform**

group of *service* (4.17) *interfaces* (4.7) and data structures used for *PI matching* (4.11)

#### 4.13

##### **registration**

assignment of a permanent, unique, and unambiguous identifier to an item

[ISO 19135:2005, 4.1.12]

#### 4.14

##### **request**

invocation of an operation by a *client* (4.1)

[ISO 19128:2005, 4.10]

#### 4.15

##### **response**

result of an operation returned from a *server* (4.16) to a *client* (4.1)

[ISO 19128:2005, 4.11]

#### 4.16

##### **server**

particular instance of a *service* (4.17)

[ISO 19128:2005, 4.12]