

FIPS PUB 4-2

FEDERAL INFORMATION PROCESSING STANDARDS PUBLICATION  
1998 NOVEMBER 15  
REPRESENTATION OF CALENDAR DATE FOR INFORMATION INTERCHANGE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, William A. Daley, Secretary  
National Institute of Standards and Technology, Raymond G. Kammer, Director  
Foreword

The Federal Information Processing Standards Publication Series of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is the official publication relating to standards and guidelines adopted and promulgated under the provisions of Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 104-106. Under these mandates, the Secretary of Commerce promulgates standards and guidance pertaining to the efficiency, security, and privacy of Federal computer systems. The National Institute of Standards and Technology through its 'Information Technology Laboratory, has the mission of developing standards, guidelines and associated methods and techniques for computer systems, and providing technical assistance to industry and government in the implementation of standards.

Comments concerning Federal Information Processing Standards Publications are welcomed and should be addressed to the Director, Information Technology Laboratory, Stop 8970, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8900.

Shukri A. Wakid, Director  
Information Technology Laboratory

Abstract

This standard provides a means of representing calendar date to facilitate interchange of data among information systems. This standard adopts American National Standard ANSI X3.30-1997: Representation of Date for Information Interchange (revision of ANSI X3.30-1985 (RI991)). This standard reinforces the Federal Government's commitment to use data format standards that will facilitate a smooth transition of systems in the year 2000. This standard is being issued to preclude any confusion about the use of date format standards within the Federal Government, and to carry out the objectives of the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion.

Key words: calendar date; computers; data elements and codes; data processing; Federal Information Processing Standard; information systems; information technology; standards; year 2000 computer problem.

Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996, and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 104-106.

1. Name of Standard. Representation of Calendar Date for Information Interchange FIPS PUB 4-2).
2. Category of Standard. Data Standard, Representations and Codes.
3. Explanation. This standard provides a means of representing calendar date to facilitate interchange of data among information systems.
4. Approving Authority. The Secretary of Commerce.

5. Maintenance Agency. U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Information Technology Laboratory.

6. Cross Index.

a. American National Standard ANSI X3.30-1985 (RI991): Representation for Calendar Date and Ordinal Date for Information Interchange.

b. International Standard ISO 8601:1988, Data elements and interchange formats - Information interchange - Representation of dates and times.

7. Objectives. The objectives of this standard are to improve the utilization of information resources of the Federal Government and to avoid unnecessary duplication and incompatibilities in the collection, processing and dissemination of data.

8. Applicability. This Data Standard is made available for data interchange among executive departments and independent agencies, and for Federal data interchange with the non-Federal sector including industry, State, local, and other governments, and the public at large.

9. Implementation Schedule. This standard becomes effective November 15, 1998. Federal agencies should use the date format promulgated by this standard to minimize disruptions to information technology services, and to maintain ability to conduct business in the year 2000 and beyond.

10. Specifications. This standard adopts American National Standard ANSI X3.3 0-1997: Representation of Date for Information Interchange (revision of ANSI X3.30-1985 (RI991)). ANSI X3.30-1997 was approved on February 5, 1998, and is published by the American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036, telephone (212) 642-4900.