



## ISO/IEC JTC 1 N9185

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### ISO/IEC JTC 1 Information Technology

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**German comments on JTC 1 N 9040/SC 25 N 1472:**

**Request from ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 25 to JTC 1 for clarification on consistency of standards versus competing specifications**

The national body of Germany provides the following answers:

**Question 1: Is it permissible to provide multiple international standards for the same application and function?**

Answer: From principle there shall be only one standard. Exceptions from this principle may not be avoidable but shall be kept to a minimum and well reasoned. Such reasons may easier be found in commercial areas than in homes.

**Question 2: In case Question 1 is answered with yes, shall the competing solutions apply different technologies, e. g. not just differ in coding but use different technical principles?**

Answer: Multiple standards for the same technologies are not acceptable.

**Question 3: In case Question 1 is answered with yes, what kind of relationship is required for entities meeting the competing specifications?**

**In case they belong to the same group of applications (HES Class 1, HES Class 2 or Class 3 only) the following is required as a minimum:**

Interchangeability      Interworking      Interoperability      Co-existence

Answer: For HES Class 1 interworking is required, interchangeability is desirable. For a HES Class 2 and Class 3 interoperability is required, interworking is desirable unless the products are clearly intended to be marketed in different parts of the world.

**In case they belong to different groups of applications (a mix of HES Class 1, HES Class 2 and Class 3) the following is required as a minimum:**

Interchangeability      Interworking      Interoperability      Co-existence

Answer: Interoperability is required, interworking is desirable.

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