Revising ANSI/NISO Z39.19

Updates for the 21st Century

Incentive for the Revision

- Difficult for non-lexicographers to understand
- Focused on construction and maintenance
- Limited to document indexing
- Limited to print products
- Outdated technology

NISO's Goals for the Revision

- Provide a better, more inclusive way to represent content
- Take into account a changing audience as well as a vastly different information environment
- Increasing need for interoperability and sharing across applications

Support for the Revision

- The H.W. Wilson Company
- The Getty Foundation
- National Library of Medicine.

The Committee

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Major changes in the Revised standard

- Expand the scope beyond thesaurus to include controlled vocabularies
- Make the standard-more accessible to users
- Explain important concepts
- Explain principles of vocabulary control
- Expand beyond the abstracting and indexing (A&I) applications

Sections

- 1. Introduction,
- 2. Scope
- 3. Referenced Standards
- 4. Definitions, Abbreviations, and Acronyms.
- 5. Comprehensive discussion on controlled vocabularies, their purpose, concepts, principles, and structure
- 6. Rules and guidelines for term choice, scope, and form.
- 7. Compound terms
- 8. Types of relationships that may be defined between and/or among terms in a controlled vocabulary.
- 9. Display formats
- 10. Interoperability.
- 11. Construction, testing, maintenance, and management systems for controlled vocabularies

Major changes

- Document to Content Object
- Descriptor to Term
- Thesauri to Controlled Vocabularies
 - Lists
 - Synonym Rings
 - Taxonomies
 - Thesauri
- Display formats
- Interoperability

Z39.19 -- 2005

The Standard is available for download at http://www.niso.org/standards/index.html

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For the Next Revision

- Coordinate work with British and ISO standards
- Work on Interoperability and multilingual issues
- Work on crosswalks