

ECMA-58, Flexible Disk Cartridge Labeling and File Structure for Information Interchange

SCOPE

The aim of this Standard ECMA-58 is to facilitate the interchange of information recorded on each of the types of flexible disk cartridges defined in Standards ECMA-54 and ECMA-59 between users of different systems.

This is accomplished by specifying recorded labels to identify files, file sections, and volumes of flexible disk cartridges, and by defining the basic characteristics of the blocks containing the records which constitute the file, as well as the file structure.

This Standard provides specifications for file and labeling facilities. It defines a minimum set of facilities which each implementation shall include and which is called Basic Interchange. This Standard also describes some facilities beyond Basic Interchange which may be the subject of future standardization (see Appendices C and D). They are referred to so as to reserve some characters for specific use in future versions of this Standard and also to facilitate the description of the handling of defective physical records. Conformance to the present version of this Standard requires implementation of Basic Interchange only.

The labeling support provided by a product or programming system to which this Standard is applicable must include the procedures for producing and processing labeled flexible disk cartridge volumes and files. Failure to conform to this Standard may result in loss of the ability to interchange data effectively.

Within this Standard the specifications for file and labeling facilities applicable to each of the types of flexible disk cartridge possess a high

level of similarity. This fact makes it both desirable and practical to include them within a single standards document. It also simplifies any implementation which is intended within the same equipment or system to support Basic Interchange on both types of flexible disk cartridge.

The requirements of this Standard need not to apply to data which are not intended for interchange.