International Standard 3779

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION•МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ•ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

Road vehicles — Vehicle identification number (VIN) — Content and structure

Véhicules routiers — Numéro d'identification des véhicules (VIN) — Contenu et structure

Third edition — 1983-04-01

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Descriptors : road vehicles, motor vehicles, towed road vehicles, international identification number, specifications, definitions.

ISO 3779-1983 (E)

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 3779 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 22, *Road vehicles.*

The second edition (ISO 3779-1977) had been approved by the member bodies of the following countries:

Austria	Germany, F.R.	South Africa, Rep. of
Belgium	Ghana	Spain
Brazil	Hungary	Sweden
Bulgaria	Iran	Switzerland
Canada	Italy	Turkey
Chile	Japan	USA
Czechoslovakia	Korea, Dem. P. Rep. of	Yugoslavia
Finland	Netherlands	
France	Romania	

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No member body had expressed disapproval of the document.

This third edition, which cancels and replaces ISO 3779-1977, incorporates draft Amendment 1, which was circulated to the member bodies in January 1982 and has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries:

Australia	Germany, F.R.	Poland
Belgium	Hungary	Romania
Brazil	Ireland	South Africa, Rep. of
Canada	Italy	Spain
China	Japan	Sweden
Czechoslovakia	Korea, Rep. of	Switzerland
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Netherlands	USA
France	New Zealand	USSR

The members bodies of the following countries expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds:

Austria
Korea, Dem. P. Rep. of
United Kingdom

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Road vehicles — Vehicle identification number (VIN) — Content and structure

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the content and structure of a vehicle identification number (VIN) in order to establish, on a world-wide basis, a uniform identification numbering system for road vehicles.

2 Field of application

This International Standard applies to motor vehicles, trailers, motorcycles and mopeds as defined in ISO 3833.

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3 References

ISO 3780, *Road vehicles — World manufacturer identifier (WMI) code.*

ISO 3833, *Road vehicles — Types — Terms and definitions.*

ISO 4030, *Road vehicles — Vehicle identification number (VIN) — Location and attachment.*

4 Definitions

4.1 vehicle identification number (VIN): A structured combination of characters assigned to a vehicle by the manufacturer for identification purposes.

4.2 world manufacturer identifier (WMI): The first section of the VIN, designating the manufacturer of the vehicle. The code is assigned to a vehicle manufacturer in order to allow identification of the said manufacturer and, when used in conjunction with the remaining sections of the VIN, ensures uniqueness of the VIN for all vehicles manufactured in the world for a period of 30 years.

4.3 vehicle descriptor section (VDS): The second section of the VIN. It provides information describing the general attributes of the vehicle.

4.4 vehicle indicator section (VIS): The last section of the VIN. It is a combination of characters assigned by the manufacturer to distinguish one vehicle from another. This number, in conjunction with the VDS, ensures a unique designation of all vehicles produced by each manufacturer for a period of 30 years.

4.5 manufacturer: A person, firm, or corporation under whose responsibility a vehicle has been assembled to form a unit which is ready for operation; the manufacturer is responsible for the uniqueness of the VIN.

4.6 year: The calendar year in which the vehicle was produced or the model year of the vehicle as determined by the manufacturer.

4.7 divider: A symbol, character or physical border that may be used to separate the sections of the VIN or to define the limits (beginning and end) of the VIN. Dividers should not be capable of being confused with arabic numerals or roman letters.

5 Requirements

5.1 VIN basic content (see examples in the annex)

The VIN shall consist of three sections: first, the world manufacturer identifier (WMI) section, second, the vehicle descriptor section (VDS), and last, the vehicle indicator section (VIS).

5.2 World manufacturer identifier (WMI)

This shall be the first section of the VIN and shall consist of three characters, as specified in ISO 3780, which are preassigned by organizations other than the manufacturer.

5.3 Vehicle descriptor section (VDS)

This shall be the second section of the VIN and shall consist of six characters; if the manufacturer does not use one or more of these character spaces, the spaces not used shall be filled by alphabetic or numeric characters of the manufacturer's choice. This section shall identify the general attributes of the vehicle. The coding and sequence of this section are determined by the manufacturer.

5.4 Vehicle indicator section (VIS)

This shall be the last section of the VIN and shall consist of eight characters; the last four shall be numeric.

If the manufacturer chooses to designate year and/or plant in this section, it is recommended that the year be indicated by the first character of the VIS and the plant of manufacture by the second character. The recommended code to be used when designating year is indicated in the table.

5.5 Characters

Only the following arabic numerals and capital roman letters shall be used in the VIN:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

A B C D E F G H J K L M N P R S T U V W X Y Z

(The letters I, O and Q shall not be used.)

5.6 Dividers

The selection of the specific divider to be used is at the discretion of the manufacturer, but it shall not be any character used in the VIN (see 5.5) or any character that could be confused with a VIN character. The divider shall be used at the limits of each line, as indicated in 5.7.2, of the VIN and may be used between sections. Dividers are not to be used on documentation.

5.7 VIN display

5.7.1 The VIN printed on documents shall be shown on one line without blanks.

5.7.2 The VIN as displayed on the vehicle or manufacturer's plate shall be represented on either one or two lines without blanks and with no section being split.

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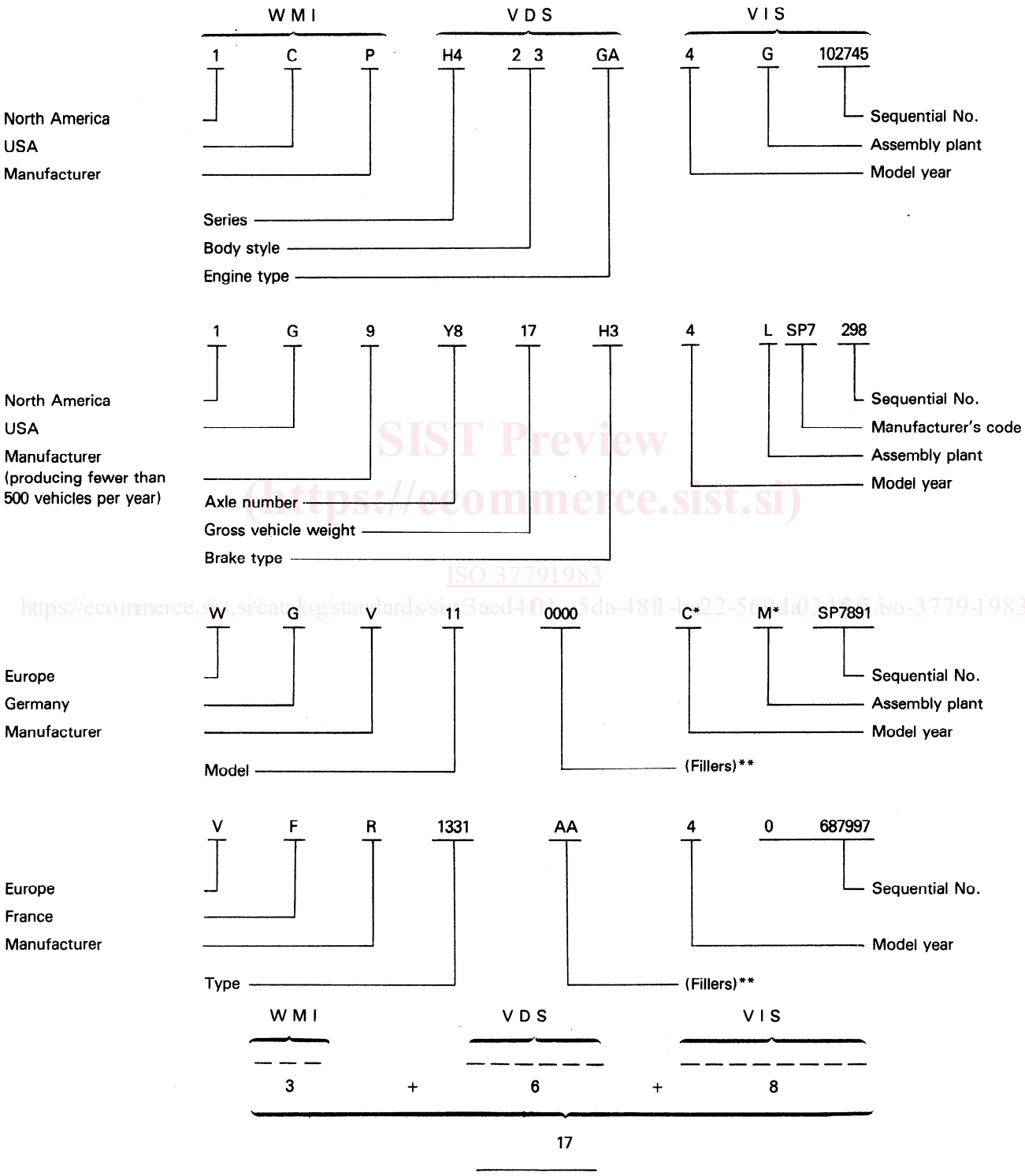
Table — Characters used for designating the year

Year	Code	Year	Code	Year	Code	Year	Code
1971	1	1981	B	1991	M	2001	1
1972	2	1982	C	1992	N	2002	2
1973	3	1983	D	1993	P	2003	3
1974	4	1984	E	1994	R	2004	4
1975	5	1985	F	1995	S	2005	5
1976	6	1986	G	1996	T	2006	6
1977	7	1987	H	1997	V	2007	7
1978	8	1988	J	1998	W	2008	8
1979	9	1989	K	1999	X	2009	9
1980	A	1990	L	2000	Y	2010	A

Annex

Examples

The examples shown below do not prejudge the content of an actual VIN.



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* Indication according to 5.4.

** See 5.3.