



**International Electrotechnical
Commission
International Organization for
Standardization**
**Graphical Symbols for Use on
Equipment**

(requires password)

The database on Graphical Symbols for Use on Equipment contains the complete set of graphical symbols included in IEC 60417 and ISO 7000. It therefore offers end-users a "one-stop" shop for all such graphical symbols. These International Standards are maintained respectively by IEC/TC 3, subcommittee SC 3C and ISO/TC 145, subcommittee SC 3.

Each graphical symbol is identified by a reference number and contains a title (in English and French), a graphical representation in GIF and vectorized PDF format, and some additional data as applicable. Various search and navigation facilities allow for easy retrieval of graphical symbols.

Subscriptions

Customers have the possibility to subscribe to the joint IEC and ISO collection of symbols or to each respective organization's symbols only.

Joint IEC 60417 and ISO 7000 collection

The most cost effective solution is the combined collection which offers the IEC 60417 and ISO 7000 collections in database format, with the possibility to download IEC 60417 snapshots or the ISO 7000 standard in PDF format. This subscription is available for CHF 500 for the first year, with subsequent years at only CHF 150 (if renewed within the current subscription period). In order to subscribe please contact your local IEC National Committee/approved sales outlet or local ISO member, or visit the [IEC Web Store](#) or the [ISO Store](#).

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Introduction

The database is organized as a set of "data sheets" describing the graphical symbols and their attributes. Please click on "General description" on the left panel to see how the database is structured and how to use graphical symbols.

IEC 60417 is used as a reference by the following IEC member countries:

Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine

Languages

The database is bilingual with all symbol data available in English and French. While viewing a symbol data sheet you can switch back and forth between the two languages.

Links

All items in blue represent links to other elements or to specific action.

Finding a symbol

The database provides two methods for finding a symbol:

1. Search function (top right of each page)

You can combine two search terms with a boolean "AND", "OR" or "NOT" operator.

2. Categorized views

Symbols are categorized by symbol ID, name, keyword, shape, function, application, TC/SC, publication and status. Some of the views are presently not available for ISO 7000 graphical symbols.



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General description

A graphical symbol is a visually perceptible figure used to transmit information independently of language. The graphical symbols for use on equipment are used for a wide range of purposes. For such graphical symbols, consistency in design of families of symbols used in one location or on similar equipment is an important issue, as is legibility when these symbols are reduced to small dimensions. Thus, there have been common provisions among areas covered by IEC and ISO on basic principles for graphical symbols for use on equipment to ensure visual clarity, to maintain consistency and thereby to improve recognition (see IEC 80416-1 and ISO 80416-2).

Scope

IEC 60417 graphical symbols are primarily intended to:

- identify the equipment or a part of the equipment (e.g. a control or display);
- indicate a functional state (e.g. on, off, alarm);
- designate connections (e.g. terminals, filling points for materials);
- provide information on packaging (e.g. identification of contents, instructions for handling);
- provide instruction for the operation of the equipment (e.g. limitations of use).

IEC 60417 does not apply to symbol originals for:

- safety signs;
- use on drawings and diagrams;
- use in technical documentation of products and in technical product documentation;
- use for public information.

ISO 7000 provides a synopsis of those graphical symbols which are placed on equipment or parts of equipment of any kind in order to instruct the person(s) using the equipment as to its operation.

Structure of the database

Each graphical symbol carries a registration number (symbol ID) and a name in English and French, together with a graphical representation in GIF and in vectorized PDF format. There are also several optional fields. Below is a full listing of all the database fields. Some of them do not apply presently to ISO 7000 graphical symbols.

- Symbol ID
- Name

- Graphical representation in GIF format
- Graphical representation in vectorized PDF format
- Status
- Product area
- Description
- Notes
- Date of release
- Date of withdrawal
- Example of application class
- Function class
- Shape class
- Keywords
- Publication reference
- Relevant TCs and publications
- Replacing
- Replaced by
- Change requests

How to use released graphical symbols

The graphical symbols are intended for use on equipment; generally speaking any kind of equipment. The field "Example of application class" can be used to indicate more specifically for which type of equipment a graphical symbol is intended.

Guidelines for the application of graphical symbols for use on equipment are in IEC 80416-3. Supplementary guidelines for the adaptation of graphical symbols for use on screens and displays (icons) are under development as separate international standards in the ISO/IEC 80416 series.