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**Technical drawings — Numerically  
controlled draughting machines —  
Draughting media and tools for vector  
plotters**

*Dessins techniques — Machines à dessiner à commande numérique —  
Supports et outils de traçage pour traceurs de vecteurs*



## Foreword

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Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 16018 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 10, *Technical drawings, product definition and related documentation*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Media equipment for drawing and related documentation*.

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International Organization for Standardization  
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Genève 20 • Switzerland  
Internet iso@iso.ch

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# Technical drawings — Numerically controlled draughting machines — Draughting media and tools for vector plotters

## 1 Scope

This International Standard gives recommendations on the selection of combinations of draughting tools and media for vector plotters. It is only applicable to the draughting tools and media covered herein.

## 2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 9177-2:1989, *Mechanical pencils — Part 2: Black leads — Classification and dimensions*.

ISO 9957-1:1992, *Fluid draughting media — Part 1: Water-based India ink — Requirements and test conditions*.

ISO 9957-2:1995, *Fluid draughting media — Part 2: Water-based non-India ink — Requirements and test conditions*.

ISO 9958-1:1992, *Draughting media for technical drawings — Draughting film with polyester base — Part 1: Requirements and marking*.

ISO 9961:1992, *Draughting media for technical drawings — Natural tracing paper*.

ISO 12756:1998, *Drawing and writing instruments — Ball point pens and roller ball pens — Vocabulary*.

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1 Output form

#### 3.1.1

##### **plot**

graphic image created by a numerically controlled draughting machine on draughting media

#### 3.1.2

##### **check plot**

plot for verification of completeness and absence of mistakes with no special requirements with respect to line quality

**3.1.3****technical drawing plot**

plot which contains all the necessary characteristics for a technical drawing with legibility and reproducibility

**3.1.4****business graphic plot**

plot for business presentations consisting of colours, lines and filled areas

**3.2 Draughting media for plotting****3.2.1 Paper****3.2.1.1****check plot paper**

paper without special performance requirements

**3.2.1.2****opaque non-coated paper**

paper which is manufactured in such a way that technical drawings or business graphics can be made on it

**3.2.1.3****opaque coated glossy paper**

paper with a glossy surface which is manufactured in such a way that high-contrast colour presentations can be made on it

**3.2.1.4****opaque coated smooth paper**

paper with a surface which is manufactured in such a way that high-contrast colour presentations can be made on it

NOTE The surface can be from matt to satin smooth.

**3.2.1.5****semi-opaque non-coated paper**

paper with a higher light transmitting property compared to opaque paper

**3.2.1.6****natural tracing paper**

drawing paper for use with ink and/or pencil, the translucency of which is achieved by mechanical treatment during the manufacturing process

[ISO 9961:1992]

**3.2.1.7****vellum**

100 % rag paper, the light transmitting properties of which are achieved by mechanical treatment

**3.2.2****draughting film**

film for drawn and written information with either chemically or mechanically produced drawing surfaces on one or both sides

[ISO 9958-1:1992]

**3.2.2.1****matt polyester film**

medium designed to exhibit high dimensional stability and mechanical strength

**3.2.2.2****matt polypropylene film**

medium of lower thermal dimensional stability and mechanical strength than polyester film

**3.2.2.3****non-coated overhead film**

transparent polymer film intended for plotting with solvent based inks

**3.2.2.4****coated overhead film**

transparent polymer film intended for plotting quick drying images with water based inks

**3.2.3****laminated medium**

medium consisting of film and paper laminated together

**3.3 Draughting tools for plotting****3.3.1****pen**

writing instrument equipped with a feeding system which deposits a writing fluid on a surface<sup>1)</sup>

NOTE It is available in refillable or non-refillable (disposable) form.

[ISO 12756:1998]

**3.3.2****tubular tip for paper**

instrument having a tubular point with a polished writing surface intended for paper

**3.3.3****tubular tip for film**

instrument having a tubular abrasion resistant point intended for abrasive draughting surfaces

**3.3.4****roller ball pen**

ball pen which deposits a writing fluid with a maximum dynamic viscosity of 1 000 mPa·s (1 000 cP) at 23 °C ± 2 °C

[ISO 12756:1998]

**3.3.5****ball point pen**

ball pen which deposits a writing fluid with a dynamic viscosity greater than 1 000 mPa·s (1 000 cP) at 23 °C ± 2 °C

[ISO 12756:1998]

**3.3.6****gas pressurized pen**

ball point pen with a gas pressurized filling to provide adequate delivery of paste ink at high plotting speeds

**3.3.7****fibre tip pen**

pen in which the plotting fluid is delivered by means of fibres aligned in an axial direction

**3.3.8****plastic tip pen**

pen in which the plotting fluid is delivered by means of a capillary in an extruded plastic tip

**3.3.9****ceramic tip pen**

pen in which the plotting fluid is delivered by means of a tubular ceramic element

<sup>1)</sup> For the purpose of this International Standard pens can also be used as draughting instruments.

**3.3.10****ceramic lead**

black lead in which the binding agent is clay

[ISO 9177-2:1989]

**3.3.11****polymer lead**

black lead in which the binding agent is an organic polymer

[ISO 9177-2:1989]

**3.4 Draughting fluids for plotting****3.4.1****India ink****China ink**

water-based drawing fluid that contains dispersed carbon black as its primary colorant

[ISO 9957-1:1992]

**3.4.2****non-India ink**

black water-based draughting fluid that contains a colorant such as (but not limited to) one or more of the following: dyes, dispersions of dyes, microfine organic pigments, etc., but does not contain carbon black as its primary colorant

[ISO 9957-2:1992]

**3.4.3****solvent based ink**

plotting fluid that contains as its primary vehicle a solvent with a vapour pressure higher than that of water ink

**3.4.4****paste ink**

writing fluid with a dynamic viscosity greater than 1 000 mPa·s (1 000 cP) at 23 °C ± 2 °C to be used for ball point pens

**4 Recommendations**

The suitability criteria for the various combinations of draughting tools and media for plotting are limited to those given in Tables 1 and 2.

The suitability criteria are classified as follows:

— for plotter pen/media selection:

++ = preferred;

+ = good;

– = not compatible;

— for plotting media properties selection:

++ = excellent;

+ = good;

– = poor.

These recommendations are intended to provide guidance as to the suitability for application areas.

Table 1 — Plotter pen/media selection

Plotting tool		Ink	Check plot	Technical drawing plot							Business graphic plot					
				Paper					Film		Opaque paper			Overhead film		
				Opaque	Translucent				Polyester	Polypropylene	Coated glossy	Coated smooth	Non-coated matt	Non-coated	Coated	
Tubular tip	For paper	Disposable	India	+	++	+	++	++	-	-	-	-	-	++	-	-
		Refillable disposable	Non-India	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	++	-	-
	For film	Refillable	India	+	++	+	++	++	-	++	-	-	-	++	-	-
		Disposable	India	-	+	-	-	-	++	++	-	-	-	+	-	-
Roller ball	V groove	Refillable	India	-	-	-	-	-	++	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
		Solvent	India	-	-	-	-	-	++	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
	Disposable	Non-India	++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
		Paste	India	++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
Fibre tip pen	Plastic	Non-India	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	++	++	-	++	++
		Solvent	India	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	+
	Ceramic	Non-India	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	++	-	-
		Mechanical lead	India	+	+	-	+	+	++	+	-	-	-	-	-	-

Key: ++ preferred + acceptable - not compatible

Key: ++ preferred + acceptable - not compatible

Table 2 — Plotting media properties selection

Media characteristics	Check plot	Technical drawing plot						Business graphic plot				
		Paper			Film		Opaque paper				Overhead film	
		Opaque	Translucent			Poly-ester	Polypropylene	Coated glossy	Coated smooth	Non-coated matt	Non-coated	Coated
			Semi-opaque	Vellum	Laminate							
Dimensional stability	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	++
Mechanical strength	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	++
Archivability	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+
Reproduction suitability	—	—	+	+	++	++	++	—	—	—	—	—
	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	++	—	—
Key: ++ excellent + good — poor												
NOTE The criteria for archivability and permanence are still being developed, the entries in the rows are given as a rough guide.												



## Bibliography

- [1] ISO 9179-1:1988, *Technical drawings — Numerically controlled draughting machines — Part 1: Vocabulary*.
- [2] ISO 9959-1:1992, *Numerically controlled draughting machines — Drawing test for the evaluation of performance — Part 1: Vector plotters*.

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