INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ISO/IEC 10021-4:1997
TECHNICAL CORRIGENDUM 1

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Information technology — Message Handling Systems (MHS): Message transfer system: Abstract service definition and procedures

TECHNICAL CORRIGENDUM 1

Technologies de l'information — Systèmes de messagerie (MHS): Système de transfert de messages: Définition et procédures du service abstrait

RECTIFICATIF TECHNIQUE 1

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ITU-T RECOMMENDATION

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – MESSAGE HANDLING SYSTEMS (MHS): MESSAGE TRANSFER SYSTEM: ABSTRACT SERVICE DEFINITION AND PROCEDURES

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1) Subclause 5.3

Add the following to the end of this subclause:

Although the abstract syntax in this Service Definition contains extension markers, it has not been verified that these are present in all instances that would be required before Packed Encoding Rules could safely be used.

2) New subclause 5.4

Insert a new subclause 5.4:

5.4 Interpretation of UTC time values

Dates and times in the MHS protocols are represented using the ASN.1 *UTCTime* type which uses only two decimal digits to represent the year, leaving the century unspecified. Since MHS systems must deal with dates both in the past (e.g. submission times of old messages which may be held in local storage or forwarded) and in the future (expiry time, deferred delivery time), it is important to observe a standard convention to avoid inaccurate display or malfunction of the MHS when dates from different centuries are compared.

The two decimal digits give 100 different years that can be expressed; an implementation has to associate each of these values with a particular century. The chosen convention is that dates up to ten years prior to the current time and up to forty years ahead of the current time should be associated with the corresponding century, with the interpretation of the remaining 49 values being implementation dependent. For example, for a system operating in 1996 the values "86" to "99" are interpreted as 1986 to 1999 and the values "00" to "36" are interpreted as 2000 to 2036, and the values "37" to "85" are implementation dependent.

NOTE – This convention permits two possible implementation strategies. An implementation can choose a fixed interpretation of all the year values, such that the convention is satisfied throughout the expected life of the product, or it can interpret the dates dynamically, based on the current date, such that the implementation remains valid indefinitely. For example, an implementation could choose the fixed range 1970 to 2069 for the available values, meaning that the implementation would require revision if it is still in use by the year 2029.

3) Subclause 9.1

Number the current Note as NOTE 1.

Add a new last paragraph:

Each extension type shall occur at most once in a set of ExtensionField. The same extension type may occur in different places in the protocol. This applies to both standardized extensions and private extensions.