
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



3780

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

Road vehicles – World manufacturer identifier (WMI) code

Véhicules routiers – Code d'identification mondiale des constructeurs (WMI)

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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 3780 was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 22, *Road vehicles*, and circulated to the Member Bodies in April 1975.

It has been approved by the Member Bodies of the following countries :

Austria	France	South Africa, Rep. of
Belgium	Germany	Spain
Brazil	Ghana	Sweden
Bulgaria	Hungary	Switzerland
Canada	Iran	Turkey
Chile	Italy	U.S.A.
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	Yugoslavia
Finland	Romania	

The Member Body of the following country expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds :

Japan

Road vehicles — World manufacturer identifier (WMI) code

1 SCOPE

This International Standard specifies the content and structure of an identifier in order to establish, on a world-wide basis, the identification of road vehicle manufacturers. This identifier (WMI) is the first section of the vehicle identification number (VIN) described in ISO 3779.

2 FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard applies to motor vehicles and trailers as defined in ISO 3833, sub-clauses 3.1 and 3.2, and to motorcycles (mopeds excluded).

3 REFERENCES

ISO 3779, *Road vehicles — Vehicle identification number (VIN)*.

ISO 3833, *Motor vehicles, trailers and vehicle combinations — Designations and definitions*.¹⁾

ISO ..., *Road vehicles — Guide for the implementation of the world manufacturer identifier (WMI) code assignments*.²⁾

4 DEFINITION

4.1 world manufacturer identifier (WMI) : The code assigned to a vehicle manufacturer which permits identification of the manufacturer of the vehicle and, when used in conjunction with the remaining sections of the VIN, provides for uniqueness of the VIN for all vehicles in the world for a period of 30 years.

NOTE — The term "manufacturer" is defined in sub-clause 4.5 of ISO 3779.

5 GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS REQUIRED

5.1 The WMI code shall consist of three characters. Only

the following arabic numerals and 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.)

5.2 The assigned WMI codes will be maintained and checked by the International Agency acting under authorization from ISO: the Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc. (S.A.E.), 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, Pa. 15096 U.S.A.

5.3 One or more WMI codes will be assigned to each manufacturer responsible for production of vehicles as specified in ISO 3779 by the National Organization of that country in which the manufacturer has his headquarters.

5.4 A WMI code assigned to a manufacturer must not be assigned to another manufacturer for at least 30 years after the last year in which the code was used.

6 SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS REQUIRED FOR THE CHARACTERS IN THE WMI

6.1 First position

An alphabetic or numeric character designating a geographic area. More than one character may be assigned to a geographic area, based on anticipated needs.

Examples³⁾ :

1 and 2 :	North America
3 to 9 :	Europe
A and B :	Africa
C and D :	Asia
E :	Oceania
F :	Central America and Caribbean
G :	South America
etc.	

1) At present at the stage of draft.

2) In preparation.

3) These examples are given only for illustration purposes and may differ from characters which will actually be assigned. Actual assignments of the first and second positions of the WMI will be made by the International Agency.