



International
Standard

ISO 24631-1

Radiofrequency identification of animals —

Part 1: Evaluation of conformance of RFID transponders with ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 (including granting and use of a manufacturer code)

Identification des animaux par radiofréquence —

*Partie 1: Évaluation de la conformité des transpondeurs RFID
à l'ISO 11784 et à l'ISO 11785 (y compris l'attribution et
l'utilisation d'un code de fabricant)*

Third edition
2025-02

STANDARDSISO.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO 24631-1:2025



COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© ISO 2025

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, or required in the context of its implementation, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Abbreviated terms	4
5 Conformance	4
6 Application	4
7 Test procedures	6
7.1 General	6
7.2 Full test (category A)	6
7.3 Limited test (category B)	7
7.4 Listing update procedure (category C)	7
7.5 Test apparatus	7
7.6 Test conditions	8
Annex A (normative) Test application form (ISO 24631-1)	9
Annex B (normative) Conditions for using ISO 11784 coding (ISO 24631-1)	10
Annex C (normative) Manufacturer code application form (ISO 24631-1)	11
Bibliography	12

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established 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. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at www.iso.org/patents. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 23, *Tractors and machinery for agriculture and forestry*, Subcommittee SC 19, *Agricultural electronics*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 24631-1:2017), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- Annexes C, E and F of the previous edition have been moved to ISO 11784, and subsequent annexes have been renumbered.

A list of all parts in the ISO 24631 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

ISO has appointed a registration authority (RA) competent to register manufacturer codes used in the radiofrequency identification (RFID) of animals in accordance with ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 (see ISO 11784).

This document deals with the conformance of RFID transponders, of which the main types used for animal identification are

- injectable transponders,
- electronic ear tag transponders,
- electronic ruminal bolus transponders,
- leg tag transponders, and
- tag attachments.

The test procedures specified in this document are recognized by the Federation of European Companion Animals Veterinary Association (FECAVA) and World Small Animal Veterinarian Association (WSAVA) and, as such, can also be applied to companion animals.

STANDARDSISO.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO 24631-1:2025

STANDARDSISO.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO 24631-1:2025

Radiofrequency identification of animals —

Part 1:

Evaluation of conformance of RFID transponders with ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 (including granting and use of a manufacturer code)

1 Scope

This document provides the means of evaluating the conformance with ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 of radiofrequency identification (RFID) transponders used in the individual identification of animals. It sets forth the conditions for the granting and use of the manufacturer code related to a transponder and the associated rights and obligations of the parties involved in the issuance of the code.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 11784, *Radio frequency identification of animals — Code structure*

ISO 11785:1996, *Radio frequency identification of animals — Technical concept*

3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

activation field

electromagnetic field with a frequency of 134,2 kHz

3.2

country code

three-digit numeric code representing a country in accordance with ISO 3166-1

3.3

identification code

code used to identify the animal individually, at the national and, in combination with a *country code* (3.2), international levels

Note 1 to entry: It is a national responsibility to ensure the uniqueness of national ID codes.

3.4

laboratory reference transceiver

transceiver used to test the transponders generating the *activation field* (3.1), able to read FDX-B and HDX transponders

3.5

manufacturer

company that submits an application for conformance testing or for the granting and use of a *manufacturer code* (3.8) for transponders in conformance with ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 while accepting the conditions set forth in [Annex B](#), ISO 11784:2024, Annex B or ISO 11784:2024, Annex C

Note 1 to entry: see also ISO 11784:2024, Annex A

3.6

manufacturer code

MFC

three-digit number granted by the *RA* (3.13) to a *manufacturer* (3.5) under the conditions set forth in ISO 11784:2024, Annex C, whose range and placement within the code structure are in accordance with ISO 11784

Note 1 to entry: Only one manufacturer code is granted to the same manufacturer.

3.7

primary transponder packaging

primary protective layer of transponder components

3.8

product code

six-digit number granted (and registered) by the *registration authority* (3.13) to a *manufacturer* (3.5) for a certain type of transponder, formatted such that its first part is the *manufacturer code* (3.6) and its second part is a three-digit serial number

3.9

purchaser

person, organization or company that receives legal ownership of equipment by a transaction involving that equipment

3.10

RA-recognized test centre

test centre meeting the criteria of the *registration authority* (3.13)

3.11

RA-registered transponder

transponder registered by the *registration authority* (3.13)

3.12

RA-registered manufacturer

manufacturer (3.5) with one or more *RA-registered transponders* (3.11)

3.13

registration authority

RA

entity that approves test laboratories and issues and registers *manufacturer* (3.5) and *product codes* (3.8)

3.14

retagging

process that assigns to a new transponder the same identification number as a *transponder* (3.19) that has been lost or that is no longer readable

3.15

retagging counter

three-bit field for counting the number of *retagging* (3.14)

3.16

shared manufacturer code

three-digit number granted by the *registration authority* (3.13) to a *manufacturer* (3.5) according to ISO 11784:2024, Annex C

Note 1 to entry: A shared manufacturer code can be granted to more than one manufacturer.

3.17

secondary transponder packaging

additional layers to *primary transponder packaging* (3.7)

3.18

transceiver

device used to communicate with the *transponder* (3.19)

3.19

transponder

radiofrequency identification (RFID) device that transmits its stored information when activated by a *transceiver* (3.18) and that may be able to store new information

Note 1 to entry: A transponder can be characterized according to its components (chip, coil, capacitor, etc.), communication protocol, size, shape and packaging, or any additional characteristics that could change its properties. The main types are defined in 3.19.1 to 3.19.5.

3.19.1

injectable transponder

small *transponder* (3.19) encapsulated in a biocompatible material with porosity equivalent to that of glass able to be injected into an animal's body

3.19.2

electronic ear tag transponder

plastic-covered *transponder* (3.19) able to be fixed to the ear of the animal using a locking mechanism or to be attached to an ear tag such that it cannot be removed from the tag without damaging it

3.19.3

electronic ruminal bolus transponder

transponder (3.19) placed into a high specific gravity container able to be orally administered to a ruminant, which remains permanently in its fore stomach

3.19.4

tag attachment

transponder components covered by a primary protection layer and meant for producing one or more of the three other main transponder types or other types of animal transponder

3.19.5

leg tag transponder

plastic-covered *transponder* (3.19) able to be fixed to the leg of the animal using a locking mechanism

3.20

user information field

five-bit field for additional user information, used only in conjunction with the *country code* (3.2)

4 Abbreviated terms

CRC	cyclic redundancy check
FDX-B	full duplex communication protocol (conforming to ISO 11785, excluding protocols mentioned in ISO 11785:1996, Annex A)
HDX	half duplex communication protocol
MFC	manufacturer code
RA	registration authority
RFID	radiofrequency identification

5 Conformance

Test centres recognized by the registration authority (RA) shall perform transponder testing using the procedures specified in [Clause 7](#), and shall report the test results to the RA. These tests are in accordance with the technical requirements of ISO 11784 and ISO 11785. The manufacturer shall apply for transponder testing by completing and submitting to the RA the application form provided in [Annex A](#), while agreeing to abide by the code of conduct set forth in [Annex B](#) (see also ISO 11784:2024, Annex A). Registration depends on the transponder product passing the tests in [Clause 7](#). A product code consisting of a manufacturer code and serial number is issued to a transponder that is registered by the RA. The conditions attached to use of this registration by the manufacturer are laid down in ISO 11784:2024, Annex B.

Transponders for which conformance with ISO 11784 is claimed shall carry a numeric-3 code in accordance with ISO 3166-1, where numbers up to 900 refer to countries and numbers from 900 to 998 indicate individual manufacturers.

Use of a manufacturer code is only permitted to the manufacturer who has been issued that code by the RA. The application form for obtaining the manufacturer code shall be in accordance with [Annex C](#) while the rules for its granting and use are set forth in ISO 11784:2024, Annex C.

If the RA receives unmistakable evidence of conditions mentioned in [Annex B](#) (see also ISO 11784:2024, Annex A), ISO 11784:2024, Annex B or ISO 11784:2024, Annex C being disrespected, the RA shall apply the steps in ISO 11784:2024, Annex D.

6 Application

6.1 The manufacturer may apply for either a full (see [7.2](#)) or limited (see [7.3](#)) test or for a listing update (see [7.4](#)).

a) Full test — Category A

Applicable when:

- 1) a manufacturer is not yet registered by the RA (no tested product and no MFC);
- 2) an RA-registered manufacturer uses new silicon (integrated circuit) or new technology (HDX or FDX-B) in the transponder;
- 3) an RA-registered manufacturer changes his coil technology (ferrite vs. air coils).

b) Limited test — Category B

Applicable when:

- 1) an RA-registered manufacturer inserts previously RA-registered transponder hardware (silicon plus coil) into a different primary transponder packaging material;

- 2) an RA-registered manufacturer uses the silicon of an RA-registered transponder with different coil dimensions;
- 3) an RA-registered manufacturer inserts an RA-registered transponder with its original primary packaging in a different secondary packaging (e.g. glass transponder in a bolus or in an ear tag).

c) Listing update — Category C

Applicable when an RA-registered manufacturer intends to use an RA-registered transponder without modification.

The applicant shall deliver a copy of the original test report and a written confirmation from the RA-registered manufacturer who originally submitted the transponder in question for registration.

6.2 The application submitted to the RA shall consist of a cover letter, the application form presented in [Annex A](#) and the signed code of conduct set forth in [Annex B](#) (see also ISO 11784:2024 Annex A). The RA shall confirm receipt of the application to the manufacturer within 2 weeks. By signing the application form and the code of conduct, the manufacturer agrees to fulfil the provisions of this document.

6.3 The RA maintains a list of recognized test centres, from which the manufacturer may choose the centre that will test his transponder product.

NOTE Test centres that conform with ISO/IEC 17025 for the measurements defined in this document can be recognized by the RA.

6.4 The manufacturer shall provide the RA-recognized test centre with 50 transponders of the same type and model for a full test, or 10 transponders of the same type and model for a limited test or listing update. The transponders shall carry the country code “999” (indicating a test transponder) or the manufacturer’s code if existent. The manufacturer may freely choose the identification codes, but duplicated numbers are not allowed. The manufacturer shall provide a list of the transponder codes in decimal representation.

6.5 The RA-recognized test centre shall verify the transponders using the test procedures specified in [Clause 7](#). All tested transponders shall be activated by the activation field (according to ERC Recommendation^[4]) of the laboratory reference transceiver and be readable by the laboratory reference transceiver. The codes read shall match the codes provided by the manufacturer.

6.6 The RA-recognized test centre shall prepare a confidential report of the results and shall send two copies (or an electronic version) of the report to the chairman of the RA.

6.7 The RA chairman shall inform the manufacturer of the test results in a letter together with a copy of the report.

6.8 The RA shall issue a product code for each conformant transponder type and model.

6.9 The tested transponders shall be kept by the RA-recognized test centre, under the ownership of the RA.

6.10 The RA shall make publicly available a list of conformant transponder models in any of the three application categories [see [6.1](#), a), b) and c)]. A photograph of the registered transponder shall be included in the list.

6.11 The RA shall do everything within its power to protect the integrity of this procedure with regard to ISO 11784 and ISO 11785.

7 Test procedures

7.1 General

The applicability of a particular test procedure depends on whether a full (category A) or limited (category B) test or listing update (category C) is required (see [6.1](#)).

7.2 Full test (category A)

The shape and dimensions of the transponders under test shall be checked against the information provided in the application form.

The resonance frequency of the 50 test transponders shall be $(134,2 \pm 3)$ kHz, at a field strength $1 \text{ dB} \pm 0,5 \text{ dB}$ below the transponder activation point. The transponders shall be positioned at the centre of the test coil (see [Figure 1](#)). The returned signal frequencies of the 50 transponders under test shall be checked to ensure that they are within the frequency bands specified in ISO 11785.

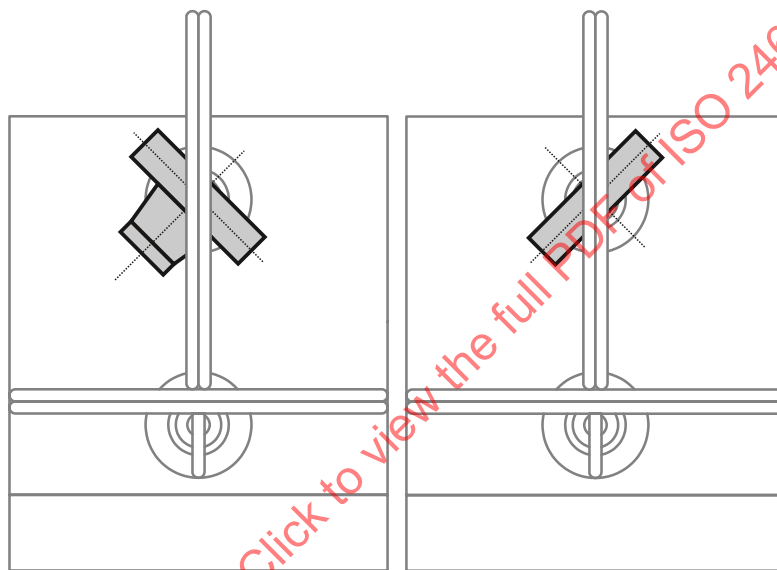


Figure 1 — Transponders positioned at the centre of the test coils

The test procedures for FDX-B and HDX transponders are identical. The transponders shall be read using a reference transceiver. This transceiver produces an interrogation signal that activates the transponder. The return signal of the transponder shall be demodulated. The test program shall include a check of the incoming bit stream to verify that the header is present. For FDX-B transponders, it is verified that every ninth bit after the header is a logical "1". The received pattern shall be displayed in 13 data fields, each of eight bits, and stored in a log file. For FDX-B transponders, the control bits between the blocks shall be displayed between square brackets at the end of each block. In particular, the following test results shall be displayed.

- Identification code: displayed in binary, hexadecimal and decimal formats. It shall be compared with the list of codes supplied by the manufacturer.
- Country code: displayed in binary, hexadecimal and decimal formats. It shall be the manufacturer or test code.
- Data block flag: bit indicating that additional data are to be received. In this test, it shall be checked to ensure it is a logical "0".
- Retagging counter: three-bit field displayed in binary, hexadecimal and decimal formats. These bits shall be checked to ensure they are logical zeroes.

- User information field: five-bit additional user information field displayed in binary, hexadecimal and decimal formats. These bits shall be checked to ensure they are logical zeroes.
- Reserved field: displayed in binary, hexadecimal and decimal formats. These bits shall be checked to ensure they are logical zeroes.
- RUDI-bit: displayed in binary, hexadecimal and decimal formats. This bit shall be checked to ensure it is logical “0”.
- Animal bit: it shall be checked to ensure it is a logical “1” (animal application).
- CRC: displayed in binary, hexadecimal and decimal formats. The CRC code received shall match the value calculated according to ISO 11785:1996, Annex B.

7.3 Limited test (category B)

The test procedure shall be as specified [7.2](#), except that 10, instead of 50, transponders shall be tested.

7.4 Listing update procedure (category C)

The manufacturer codes and the identification codes of 10 transponders shall be checked against the reference transceiver to ascertain whether they are in conformance with the codes submitted by the manufacturer.

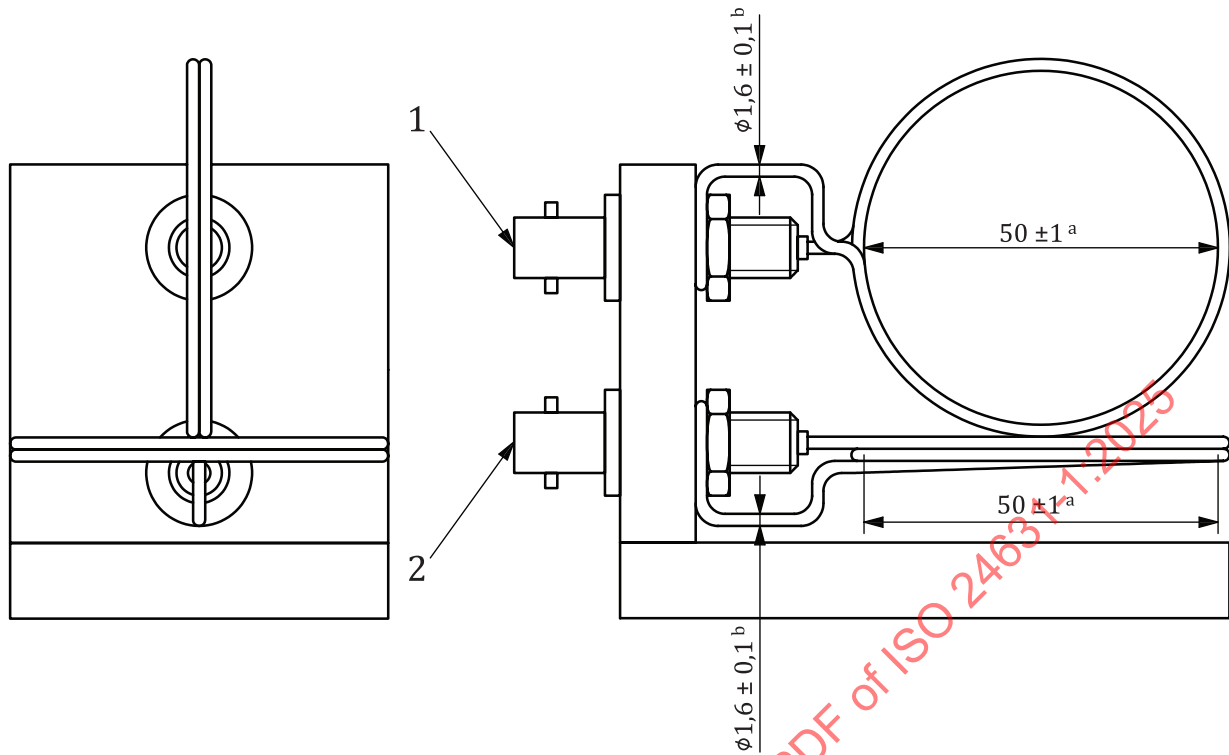
7.5 Test apparatus

7.5.1 Reference transceiver, capable of activating FDX-B and HDX transponders, recovering the return signal, and validating and communicating the data.

7.5.2 Oscilloscope, with a minimum measurement bandwidth of 10 MHz, for measuring the return signal frequencies of transponders.

7.5.3 Spectrum or network analyser, capable of measuring the resonance frequency with a maximum tolerable error of ± 30 Hz.

When performing the resonance frequency measurement using a spectrum analyser, use a test setup with a test coil configuration as shown in [Figure 2](#).



Key

- 1 tracking generator output
- 2 spectrum analyser input
- ^a Two turns, alternative 20 mm diameter for small transponders.
- ^b Cu insulated 1,6 mm.

Figure 2 — Test setup — Resonance frequency measurement

7.6 Test conditions

The test conditions shall be as follows.

Ambient temperature: minimum 15 °C and maximum 30 °C

Ambient humidity: minimum 40 % RH and maximum 80 % RH

Ambient noise floor: <70 dB μ V/m (bandwidth 2,7 kHz)

80 kHz to 200 kHz

The ambient noise is measured with a spectrum analyser and calibrated antenna in 80 kHz to 200 kHz band before measurements. Special attention shall be given to spurious emissions, which can be emitted, for example, by insufficiently shielded computer monitors. The electromagnetic test conditions of the measurements shall be checked by carrying out the measurements both with and without a transponder in the field.

Annex A

(normative)

Test application form (ISO 24631-1)

RA registration date:		Date:	
Company Name:		Address:	
Test:	Full ☐ Limited ☐	Listing update ☐	
Device type:	Injectable transponder ☐	Tag attachment ☐	
	Electronic ear tag ☐	Bolus ☐	
		Other ☐	
Device name/model:			
Part number of the RFID inlay (integrated circuit, coil and electrically connected components):			
Technology:	HDX ☐	FDX-B ☐	
Physical characteristics:			
Length:	Diameter:	Mass:	Colour:
Packaging material:			
Primary transponder packaging:			
Secondary transponder packaging:			
Photograph of device:			
Date:	Name of contact person:	Position:	

Annex B

(normative)

Conditions for using ISO 11784 coding (ISO 24631-1)

In order to maintain and enhance user confidence in the usability and functioning of RFID technology conformant with ISO 11784 and ISO 11785, the manufacturer/supplier shall ensure:

- that the products offered to the market for use in animal identification (i.e. animal bit = '1') and claimed to be conformant are in full conformance to both ISO 11784 and ISO 11785, proven by test reports issued by RA-recognized test centres and the signed letter from the RA for use of the granted manufacturer code;
- that the conditions set forth by the RA for the right to use such granted codes in accordance with this document are respected;
- that the ISO 11784 code of all ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 compliant transponders marketed are locked;
- to hold a database in which the link of the serial number of each silicon chip with the programmed ISO 11784 code is unchangeably stored to guarantee uniqueness;
- that the use of country code "999" is restricted to test applications only, and that such coded devices shall not be sold commercially;
- that the initial purchaser of the ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 conformant device, including the origin of the silicon chip in the device, can be traced;
- that for transponders applied to animals in countries where there is no national authority which regulates the transponder codes, the manufacturer recommends to his distributor and purchaser network that traceability be maintained up to and including the applier of the transponder;
- that the manufacturer/supplier of the RFID technology assumes responsibility for communicating accurate information concerning RFID technology, products and performance based on ISO 11784 and ISO 11785, and for supporting and promoting these International Standards in a positive way.

To be signed.

Company name:	Address:
Date:	Name of contact person:
Position:	