

## ANNEX III

***IPC SUBCLASS DEFINITION FORMAT***

<b>SUBCLASS DEFINITION FORMAT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>Subclass Title</b>	<p>To help ensure coextensive scope between a subclass title and its definition, subclass titles are included within the definition format, or otherwise made viewable to the user, with the remaining definition sections. A subclass title consists of a concise and complete phrase that describes the intended scope of the subject matter appropriate for the subclass. Citation information should <b>not</b> be included with the “viewable title” whenever it is specified in more detail in the other portions of the format. This restriction is not meant to preclude the display of important citation information (i.e., precedence notes) in other formats that use the subclass title (e.g., classification schedules).</p>
<b>Subclass Definition</b>	<p>A detailed description of the subject matter specifically provided for within the scope of the subclass (e.g., the scope of subject matter covered by the titles within its scheme) and broadly specified in the subclass title. The subclass definition should be as structurally simple as possible and, if feasible, should avoid numerous indents and numbered subsections. Explanatory headers are encouraged. If numbered subsections are created, the convention will be that of a standard outline, i.e., capital letter, Arabic numeral, lower case letter, lower case Roman numeral (A., 1., a., i.). No classification symbol type citations to other subclasses should be included in this section of the format.</p> <p>When a general statement of the particular category of classification place is appropriately includable in this section, it should precede the detailed definitive information associated with it. This should be done for <b>all</b> of the particular categories of classification places (e.g., general, method) covered within the scope of the subclass title.</p> <p>While a subclass definition may in part “negatively” define the scope of the subclass (this subclass does not provide for), it must always <b>positively state</b> what subject matter it does provide for. Whenever citation information is needed to completely explain appropriate locations for subject matter restricted out by a negative definitive statement, it should be clearly specified in the “Distinctions and Prioritized Relationships with Other Subclasses” section or reference section. A reference(s) in one of these sections <b>must</b> clearly and positively state the classification(s) where any “negatively defined” subject matter excluded from a subclass is provided for.</p>

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<b>SUBCLASS DEFINITION FORMAT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>Explanatory Notes and Graphics</b>	<p>This section may not be needed for many subclasses. Explanatory notes should <b>only</b> be used when it is necessary to clarify or address special situations related to its definition. Normally these are complex issues that cannot be covered entirely within the definitive information of the subclass definition without potentially misdirecting or confusing users.</p> <p>When necessary, explanatory notes should consist of informational statements that further limit, clarify the intent of, or otherwise elucidate particular terms or concepts found in the definition of the subclass.</p> <p>Any useful graphic representations may also be included in this section, except when it is already explicitly specified in the text of the subclass definition or title (e.g., chemical formula). Graphic representations that are included must clarify, limit, or represent typical structure of a complex concept within the definition.</p> <p>When this section is used, it should come before all references to other subclasses so users can understand the exact intent of any “elucidated” statements with the definition since clear understanding of all of the definition’s statements are essential when determining relationships with other classifications.</p>
<b>Distinctions and Prioritized Relationships with Other Subclasses</b>	<p>This section may not be needed for many subclasses. However, its inclusion is essential whenever a clear understanding of the scope of its subclass involves specifying interfacing relationships between several related subclasses.</p> <p>When necessary, this section should exhaustively specify all essential explanations of relationships between the defined subclass and any subclasses significantly impacting its scope. It should point out (1) the distinctions or similarities between them (i.e., subclass “lines”) and/or (2) the prioritized relationship between them when there is an overlapping of possible scope. Situations where matter would normally be covered by the title and definition of the subclass, but should be classified in another subclass, should be indicated here. Such cases are indicated by limiting references or precedence references in the scheme itself.</p>
<b>References to Other Subclasses</b>	<p>This section is essential since all references cited herein are stated in their <b>most</b> complete manner. Nevertheless, classifiers should still broadly specify this information in subclass titles within their schemes. This should be done in a manner that clearly indicates to users what references are associated with the title. Any reference indications presented within the scheme should, by necessity, be less complete and viewable in a less intrusive manner (e.g., a truncated representation, removable from screen display if preferred) than in their complete presentation versions.</p>

***IPC SUBCLASS DEFINITION FORMAT***

<b>SUBCLASS DEFINITION FORMAT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
	<p>The set of references appropriate for this section must specify pertinent subclasses, including particular groups or group ranges, having a relationship with the art of the subclass being defined. Inclusion of the classification symbols of the subclass or groups involved is required. The explanation portion of the reference should always specify what subject matter is appropriate for the cited classification and may include a short statement explaining the differences between the defined subclass and referenced classification.</p> <p>References in this section should not have as primary purpose to limit the scope of the subclass, but to provide general guidance to the user.</p> <p>In subclasses where extensive references are enumerated, it may be helpful to users to subdivide them into special categories in an appropriate manner (e.g., where fasteners are manufactured, other types of fasteners).</p> <p>The references of this section should not be included in the scheme itself.</p>
<b>Glossary of Terms</b>	<p>This section consists of definitions for one or more significant terms or phrases found in the subclass title or definition, or the titles or definitions of its groups, that are required to be used in a more precise or restricted manner than their general common definition would allow. The defined terms or phrases must be of particular importance to the subject matter within the scope of the subclass and clearly indicated in the definition's text as being defined (highlighted).</p>

***IPC DEFINITION FORMAT FOR GROUPS***

<b>GROUP DEFINITION FORMAT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>Group Title</b>	<p>To help ensure coextensive scope between a group title and its definition, group titles are included within the definition format, or otherwise made viewable to the user, with the remaining definition sections.</p> <p>A group title consists of a concise and complete phrase that describes the intended scope of the subject matter appropriate for the group within the context of its subclass title and any group titles from which it depends. If possible, group titles should define the coverage in a positive manner by stating the intended scope, and not by mentioning symbols of other groups that cover matter that is not covered by the present group.</p>

***IPC DEFINITION FORMAT FOR GROUPS***

<b>GROUP DEFINITION FORMAT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>Group Definition</b>	<p>A detailed description of the subject matter specifically provided for within the scope of the group and broadly specified in the group's title. The group definition should be as structurally simple as possible and include a preamble portion specifying either (a) its subclass when it is a main group or (b) the group it directly hierarchically depends upon in the scheme. If numbered subsections are created, the convention will be that of a standard outline, i.e., capital letter, Arabic numeral, lower case letter, lower case Roman numeral (A., 1., a., i.). No classification symbol type citations to other subclasses or groups should be included in the text of the definition other than in the preamble.</p> <p>While a group definition may in part "negatively" define the scope of the group (this group does not provide for), it must always <b>positively state</b> what subject matter the group and its dependent groups are clearly intended to provide for. Whenever citation information is needed to completely explain appropriate locations for subject matter restricted out by a negative statement in the definition, it should be clearly specified in the "Distinctions and Prioritized Relationships with Other Groups" section or "Reference" section of the format. A reference(s) in this section <b>must</b> clearly and positively state the classification(s) where any "negatively defined" subject matter excluded from a group is provided for.</p>
<b>Explanatory Notes and Graphics</b>	<p>This section may not be needed for most groups. Explanatory notes should <b>only</b> be used when it is necessary to clarify or address special situations related to a group's definition. Normally these are complex issues that cannot be covered entirely within the definitive information of the definition without potentially misdirecting or confusing users.</p> <p>When necessary, explanatory notes should consist of informational statements that further limit, clarify the intent of, or otherwise elucidate particular terms or concepts found in the definition of the group.</p> <p>Any useful graphic representations may also be provided in this section, except when it is already explicitly specified in the text of the group definition or title (e.g., chemical formula). Graphic representations of typical structure or formula that are included should clarify, limit, or represent a complex concept within the definition.</p> <p>When this section is used, it should come before all references to other classifications so users can understand the exact intent of any "elucidated" statement within the definition since clear understanding of the statement may be essential when determining relationships with other classifications.</p>

***IPC DEFINITION FORMAT FOR GROUPS***

<b>GROUP DEFINITION FORMAT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>Distinctions and Prioritized Relationships With Other Groups</b>	<p>The inclusion of this section is essential whenever a clear understanding of the scope of a group involves specifying interfacing relationships between several related groups. This section will probably be needed for many of the groups that are not arranged in an order of precedence.</p> <p>When necessary, this section should exhaustively specify all essential explanations of relationships between the defined group and any groups significantly impacting its scope. It should point out (1) the distinctions or similarities between them and/or (2) the prioritized relationship between them when there is an overlapping of possible scope.</p> <p>Situations where matter would normally be covered by the title and definition of the group, but should be classified in another group, should be indicated here. Such cases are indicated by limiting references or precedence references in the scheme itself.</p>
<b>References to Other Groups</b>	<p>This section is essential since all references cited herein are stated in their <b>most</b> complete manner. Nevertheless, classifiers should still broadly specify this information in group titles within their schemes. This should be done in a manner that clearly indicates to users what references are associated with the title. Any reference indications presented within the scheme should, by necessity, be less complete and viewable in a less intrusive manner (e.g., a truncated representation, removable from screen display if preferred) than in their complete presentation versions.</p> <p>The set of references appropriate for this section must specify pertinent groups, having a relationship with the art of the group being defined. Inclusion of the classification symbols of the subclass or groups involved is required. The explanation portion of the reference should always specify what subject matter is appropriate for the cited classification and may include a short statement explaining the differences between the defined group and referenced classification.</p> <p>References in this section should not have as primary purpose to limit the scope of the group, but to provide general guidance to the user.</p> <p>In groups where extensive references are enumerated, it may be helpful to users to subdivide them into special categories in an appropriate manner (e.g., where fasteners are manufactured, other types of fasteners).</p> <p>The references of this section should not be included in the scheme itself.</p>

[Annex IV follows]