

## **Change ID: 5.1-33**

# **Using ISO Language Codes**

## **Summary**

It is proposed to make use of ISO 639-2 language codes for the CodeLanguageType, instead of the custom list of language codes used at present.

## **Background**

AIXM 5.0 has an enumerated list of languages in [CodeLanguageType](#) . This is used for indicating the language in which a voice service and it's call sign are available ( [CallsignDetail](#) )

This list of languages was inherited from AIXM 4.5.

## **Rationale for the change**

Although the data type says that the list is "according to ISO 639", the exact list of values is not identical to the [ISO 639-1 codes](#) . For example, the Code for the German language is "GE" in AIXM, but it is "de" in the ISO list.

ISO 639 is divided into parts.

- Part 1 gives a list of two character language codes e.g. *en* for English
- Part 2 gives a list of three character language codes e.g. *eng* for English.

ISO 639-2 contains many more languages than 639-1. The Metadata specification (ISO 19115 and 19139) also recommends that ISO 639-2 be used. It is therefore proposed that this data type also uses the [ISO 639-2 alpha-3 codes](#) for the representation of names of languages- Part 2. As the list of ISO language codes can evolve in time, it is proposed to change the data type into "3 alpha characters" and just refer to the standard instead of copying the current list of language codes from the ISO document.

## **Change proposal details**

Modify the data type CodeLanguageType

- definition =" *A 3-letter code indicating a language (according to ISO 639-2)*"
- stereotype "dataType" instead of "odelist"
- remove the existing list of values
- pattern "[a-z]{3}"