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Bundesverband deutscher Banken e. V.
Bundesverband Öffentlicher Banken Deutschlands e. V.
Deutscher Sparkassen- und Giroverband e. V.
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ISO 3166 - Country Code "280"

Dear Sirs,

Currently ISO 3166 Code 280 is used by the German banking industry to identify Germany, e.g. for cards and terminals. This is despite the fact that the general ISO 3166 Code for Germany is 276. The use of Code 280 for certain standards in the reach of ISO TC 68 was agreed between Germany and international card schemes to guarantee the smooth global functioning of their systems. Until now, the use of Code 280 was therefore also described in ISO 3166 as a remark to Code 276.

With ISO 3166-1 Newsletter VI-12 (Date: 2012-02-15) the ISO 3166/MA informed about the deletion of the remark in the standard on Code 280.

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The German Banking Industry Committee (GBIC) was not informed about this change before and did not agree to it. Following an intervention with ISO 3166/MA the ISO 3166/MA has now decided on June 27th 2013 to apply clause 7.5.2. of ISO 3166-1 to Code "280", that is now considered as reserved for a period of at least fifty years beginning in 1990. Simultaneously the remark in column 7 of the entry (DE, DEU, 276) concerning "280" has been deleted.

Based on this decision, GBIC has decided to continue the use of Code 280 as additional representation for Germany, which is currently supported also within your systems. We'd like to confirm our intention to use Code 280 also in the future and we kindly ask you to continue your support of Code 280.

Best regards
für Die Deutsche Kreditwirtschaft
Deutscher Sparkassen- und Giroverband e.V.

i. A.

Axel Weiß

i. A.

Hans-Dieter Lahmann