

INTERNATIONAL ESPERANTO-SYSTEM SOCIETY

This brochure is being presented by the [International Esperanto-System Society](#) in an effort to promote its “E” banknote cataloging system.

By training, I am a civil engineer. But my diploma thesis was on this theme: “Classification and Structuring as the Basis of Managerial Process”. Since 1983, I have designed various systems in my professional work, so, my professional skills help me to create a system for my hobby.

Based on the 28-year career experience, I have come to realize that a major problem with the paper money collecting hobby is a lack of system (the universal system) which can govern all the required tasks. This system consists of universal rules which apply to all possible tasks (or databases).

After many years of painstaking research and work as cataloguer and an online catalog moderator, the idea to create the universal system was formed. After working with many people who have shared their scans and knowledge with our online catalog, I now envision the look of the universal catalog, which I have called the ESPERANTO-SYSTEM(“E”)©. “E” is the “language” of the online catalog.

I took the name from “Esperanto”, the universal language, to express the idea of combining only the best from different systems (“languages”).

In Russia (and post-Soviet Republics) alone, there are SEVEN different systems currently being used. All authors practically disregard the value and knowledge from the previously issued catalogs and try to create something new, based on their opinions which are mostly subjective. I think the situation is the same in most countries.

Therefore, I offer to all collectors this universal cataloging system which will combine the best from all systems (such as Albert Pick, Kardakov, Joe Boling, Friedberg’s, Owen Linzmayer, Allan Tohv, etc.). The “Esperanto-System” (“E”)© is free from most problems encountered with other systems.

“Esperanto-System” (“E”)©, in this context, is a unique copyrighted cataloging system developed by Dmitriy Litvak, for use in various applications. The procedures of Esperanto-System can be applying to the cataloging of all world paper money issues that have ever been issued or prepared for issue. “Esperanto-System©” has the capability of being similarly

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applied to cataloging of postage stamps, coins, post cards, artworks, etc. Detail procedures for these categories have not been yet developed.

After the cataloging of a particular category has been completed, the data collected has various unique properties not found in any other system of which we are aware. The data can be sorted, displayed and reported in many unique formats.

The main reason I chose to create an electronic catalog is its superiority over a printed one: the availability of high resolution color images, saving money on publishing, easy updates, and much more.

After my preliminary introduction of the “Esperanto-System[©]” to the IBNS board, last year, I received a very favorable response from the IBNS President: *“Your project of creating an universal on-line catalogue for banknotes is admirable.”*

Inspired by such high-level support, I would like to invite everyone to participate in “Esperanto-System” project for the benefit of all collectors. To utilize all benefits of the “Esperanto-System”, the “International Esperanto-System Society” (“IES”) was created.



[Definitely, t]To date, there exists a single monopolist that dictates it's rules – that's "Krause Publishing House". Over the past 35-40 years of printing (of the hard copy edition) of this catalog, the publishers managed to ensure that the vast majority of the collectors follow the principles of its construction. At the same time, the catalog (along with like all others, built on the principle adapted in the numeration system developed by Albert Pick in the late 1950s) is very good information source, not only for beginner collectors but also for many experienced ones.

The "Esperanto System[®]" is not meant to oppose or antagonize SCWPM, and any others existing today. It is intended to be the beginning of a unifying system. With its help it will be possible to unify in a single informational level all existing systems and catalogs built on these systems.

The "Esperanto System"[®] - in the long run, "E", happens to be a unique instrument that allows us not only to describe all existing issues of paper money , but also to organically add in it any newly-discovered items which would be added later. All (with no exception) cataloging systems share a single common disadvantage. Each of them is "built" to accommodate one (or a group of) countries. If, for instance, we examine Friedberg's system (In my opinion – the best of all existing systems today), we will see that it successfully applies in USA, but not a single other country can adapt this system, because in each of these countries there is another *Friedberg* who has locally developed the best system for their country.

From a professionalism standpoint, these systems are beyond the SCWPM, as they have not a single idea of construction systems. My mission was to develop a cataloging system, which works under unified, consistent rules. One of the benefits of such an approach is that any user (I repeat – any person) can easily find or update any needed information in any section or "country" (and today there are 320) of a catalog using this system.

"E" is based on a set of rules, mostly unique in their own way and developed as such. Here are some of them:

- 1) No politics.** This means, that a paper money issuer is not dictated by political boundaries but rather by geographical location and by the name of the "Issuing Authority" written on it.

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Alternate “E” – never-ever support any political and religious parties, and their dividers of any countries. To eliminate all possible questions of how to name a certain country, union or territory - we are proposed to use the term: SECTION

For instance: \$1 1862, can belong to two different sections, USA or CSA, depending on what is printed on it (whose government issued it). In all modern catalogs, CSA is a “part” of the USA section. Or another example: “Solomon Islands”, and “British Solomon Islands”. These are two different sections. Because in one case the issuer is “Monetary Agency of SOLOMON ISLANDS” and in the other “Government of BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS”.

From a catalog standpoint, these are two different sections.

Do not confuse this with the tedious, division of various countries into numerous colonies and divisions such as “French Somali” that is frequently found in other catalogs,. Not a single monetary instrument that circulated in this territory has used the name of *French Somali*. The name was listed based on the political division of the world map. (In “E” such monetary instruments would be under “Local”).

Determination of “Bona”

The term “banknote” which is used in catalogs does not entirely cover the whole spectrum of paper monetary instruments. It corresponds only to the part which specifically is issued by “banks”. Because of this, in “E” I utilize a universal term “Bona”. This term mostly came from Russian language, includes government, local, and private issues, as well as script and various other types.

Likewise, the globally used term “country” is now obsolete. Today, Bon are issued not only by countries but also other territories and economic zones. Because of this, “E” utilizes “sections”.

- 2) **Determination of the obverse/reverse (front/back).** This rule is critical for correct determination of “Section” (see above)
- 3) **“TYPE” and “variety”.** For the first time, the concept of the so-called 2-level numeration system is utilized. The term “TYPE” is the dominant while “variety” is a supplementary property. That is why they are located in different places.

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Example: the classifications “USA-S” and “RUS-F” immediately tell us at a glance, without reading the remainder of the classification, that this is a US specimen and Russian forgery (respectively). To date there is not a single uniform set of rules for determining varieties (variations, subtypes, etc.). Each catalog has (or doesn't) their own rules. Some conventions in one catalog may mean entirely different things in another catalog. To avoid this confusion in “E”, an entirely different approach is taken: **there are 10 different variety points, each of which has a set of unique possible values.**

The first two parameters (TYPE / variety) allow users to immediately determine any existing, rediscovered, or new Bon's.

The rules shown above (and there's only three of them) form the base for building a universal cataloging system – “E”.

Returning to the beginning, to the determination of unique characteristics of “E”, a second comparative analysis is presented:

Let us compare single- (1D), two- (2D) and three- (3D) dimensional catalogs.

(1D) – all catalogs that exist today, in which information (indices) are organized linearly (123, 124, 125 etc.) In other words, each new issue is a new index number with a letter that follows it.

For example: Issue of 2005 – “**123a**”, new signature from 2005 – “**123b**”, etc. The main disadvantage of this system is the impossibility of including newly discovered varieties in their proper place, even though such a scenario often takes place. For example: newly discovered issue of 1999. It will be marked up as: “**123Aa**” or “**123c**”.

(2D) – There is only one such modern catalog known to the author. That is the “Banknote Book” by Owen Linzmayer. (Despite Kardakov, who introduce this idea in a middle 1920). He was the first to apply the principle of a two-level index, allowing for a more intelligent and accurate classification of existing issues. The big step forward was adding a number to each letter index: a1,a2,a3...b1,b2,b3... etc. Nevertheless (and this is the only disadvantage), that same letter index could correspond to various properties (year and date of issue, signature, color, prefix, etc.)

(3D) – The three-dimensional catalog concept adds on to the concepts of the two-dimensional catalog, but with tying the letter index to a particular property, and FOR THE FIRST TIME, applying divisions on the dominant “TYPE” as well as the secondary “variety”.

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Such a system allows to definitely classifying any existing Bon's and all new subsequent issues.

Another unique feature, which does not exist in any other catalogs or systems, is the fact that the current system was specifically developed for electronic applications, in other words, to be applied and used by computers and web sites.

In the mid-70s, when Krause Publishing House first printed their catalog, till the present time, the dominant format for the catalog is hard copy. It is important to also state that there exist several electronic cataloging systems, but they are all built on the 1D concept of cataloging, used by SCWPM, OLC IBNS, catalog/gallery from web site Bonistika.net), or built on the concept of a single country catalog (Friedberg – USA). The only exception is the “Banknote Book” by Owen Linzmayer, which is a 2D system.

The 3D system at hand was developed primarily for use in electronic format, and at the same time can be a universal system for use in web sites linking and coordinating their two main components: catalogs and forums.

It is generally known that as soon as a catalog is printed in hard copy it becomes obsolete.

1) All informational content is unreliably slow. The printing process takes 6 months or more. In today's day and age, it is important to refresh information more often. 2) Suggested market values – this is always a subjective opinion of the analysts and catalogers, and is very tough to keep updated. 3) Similarly to all published materials (books, magazines, catalogs) – number of readers of hard copies are going down.

None of these disadvantages are present in the “Esperanto-System” ©.

- 1) Users will receive electronic format document (in several groupings) on a CD/DVD, which will be followed by constant updates by subscription, as soon as new information is received. The printed version would be issued every year, with the updated material. 2) In “E”, no pricing information will be dictated. Users have complete freedom to assess values, with the help of the constantly-updated database with transaction records from auctions and other sales venues, with an indication of location, date, and grade. The only catalog that offers such a service is “Track & Price”, but this also pertains to USA issues. 3) Electronic publishing continues to capture more and more readers from its hard-copy competitors.

“The Esperanto System ©” [©] is a modern, flexible tool that will allow any (from beginning collector to auctioneer) to find information on any particular aspect. “E” allows us to systematize and at the same time catalog any type of information (not only scans)

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pertaining to a collectible item, which not only drastically improves Search engine results but also overall web site performance and effectiveness as well.

First is the technology, then the management. I want to embrace technological changes, and base future of “E” on modern technology.

Principles of constructions of this system can be successfully applied to building cataloging systems of web sites practically in any area of collecting.

Appendix 1

To build up a successful on-line catalog we have to follow two major rules.

- 1) **The unification of web site** (templates, and search engine)

The unification of the web site is a process of creating a database, applications, constitution and various links between them. This structure lets us easily and effortlessly either put in any new issue, or searching thru existing ones.

First is the technology, then the management. I want to embrace technological changes, and base future of “E” on modern technology.

- 2) **The unification off all databases** which are constructing this particular web site, and consist from two parts:

3)

2-1) The Issuing Authorities Level (SIB)

2-2) The Bona’s Level (IBONS)

SIB

The major headstones:

- 1) “E” – never-ever support any political and religious parties, and their dividers of any countries. To eliminate all possible questions of how to name a certain country, union or territory - we are proposed to use the term: **SECTION**
- 2) The regions are based on CIA’s “The World Fact Book” (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook>) region dividers, with addition of one “special” region – “EURASIA”.

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To make it easy to navigate through the catalog all categories are color coded. (see table #1)

TABLE #1

R1		<u>ANTARCTICA</u>
R2		<u>AFRICA</u>
R3		<u>AUSTRALIA AND OCEANIA</u>
R4		<u>CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARRIBEAN</u>
R5		<u>CENTRAL ASIA</u>
R6		<u>EURASIA</u>
R7		<u>EUROPE</u>
R8		<u>EAST AND SOUTH EAST ASIA</u>
R9		<u>MIDDLE EAST</u>
R10		<u>NORTH AMERICA</u>
R11		<u>SOUTH ASIA</u>
R12		<u>SOUTH AMERICA</u>

3) All Sections are divided by 2 major categories (catalogs):

1st Level Catalog – EXISTING Sections (Numbers are on green background, in 3 capital bold letters)

2nd Level Catalog – OBSOLETE Sections (Numbers are on grey background, and in 3 lower case bold letters)

With acceptance of this idea we eliminate the virtual divider between “modern” and “regular” issues chosen for year of 1960 by SWPMC. Also there are no more separators between “Regular” and “Special” issues. (See “Types”)

Also all Sections marked up with 3 letters code, which comply with ISO-3 for 1st Level , but the new codes was created for 2nd Level .

This is what it will look like (see table#2):

Please note: all features and their benefits are created (and can be used) only for “electronic” copy, not for printed one.

TABLE #2

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1	AFG	AFGANISTAN
7	AIA	ANGUILLA
8	ATA	ANTARCTICA
13	AUS	AUSTRALIA
70	CZE	CZECH REPUBLIC
71	CSK	Czechoslovakia
89	EUR	EUROPEAN UNION
199	ANT	NETHERLANDS ANTILLES(Neth/Dutch West Indies)
309	YEM	YEMEN
310	YMD	Yemen DR (South)
311	YMA	Yemen Arab Rep
312	YUG	Yugoslavia
316	ZWE	ZIMBABWE

Note: Some Sections from 1st Level eventually can be transferred to the 2nd Level.
For Example: (**#199**) **NETHERLAND ANTILLES**.

The Netherlands Antilles are scheduled to be dissolved as a unified political entity on October 10, 2010, so that the five constituent islands will attain new constitutional statuses within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The 3rd Level catalog is presenting in both major catalogs (1st and 2nd). These dates are marked up in 4 regular letters and can be recognized by first 3 letters (**DHYK** → **DHY**)
For example:

TABLE #3

	DHYK	Dahomey, Kingdom	-1894
104	WAF	French West Africa	1894-1960
72	DHY	Dahomey	1960-1975
26	BEN	BENIN	1975-

As you can see from the tables above- the idea to determine any SECTION is:

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At the top- there is always the SECTION from 1st Level. It means our “journey” started in present days (**BENIN**, 1975- ...) and then we are “rolled back” in time to 2nd Level (**Dahomey**, 1960-1975 and **French West Africa**; 1894-1960) and 3rd Level (**Dahomey**, Kingdom; before 1894).

TABLE #4

	BMUB	Bermuda, British	1609-1967
27	BMU	BERMUDA	1967-

In this example we are jumping directly from 1st Level (**BERMUDA**; 1967-present) to 3rd Level (Bermuda, British 1609-1967)

The following examples are show how the structure of SECTION was created. (Tables #5-7)

TABLE #5

	DHYK	Dahomey, Kingdom	-1894	<u>Kingdom of Dahomey</u>
104	WAF	French West Africa	1894-1960	<u>French West Africa</u>
72	DHY	Dahomey	1960-1975	<u>Republic of Dahomey</u>
26	BEN	BENIN	1975-	<u>BENIN</u>

Dahomey was the name of a country in West Africa now called the Republic of **BENIN**. The Kingdom of Dahomey was a powerful West African state founded in the seventeenth century which survived until 1894. From 1894 until 1960 **Dahomey** was a part of **French West Africa**. The independent Republic of **Dahomey** existed from 1960-1975. In 1975, the country was re-named "The People's Republic of **BENIN**".

Another example:

TABLE #6

	BMUB	Bermuda, British	1609-1967	<u>Bermuda</u>
27	BMU	BERMUDA	1967-	<u>BERMUDA</u>

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Before 1968, **BERMUDA** was a British colony (Bermuda, British), and since Constitution of 1968 - **BERMUDA** is a self-governing British Overseas Territory and has a great degree of internal autonomy (such as to issue their own money).

TABLE #7

DHYK	Dahomey, Kingdom
WAF	French West Africa
DHY	Dahomey
BEN	BENIN

This table shows us: that the 1st Level **BENIN** was previously considered as **Dahomey** (as whole territory) and **French West Africa** (partially). Also, the 3rd Level “Dahomey, Kingdom” (**DHYK**) is linked to 2nd Level “**Dahomey**” (**DHY**), not to following **French West Africa**.

To explain, why we choose these names for Section’s lets answer to the following question.
How to determine the obverse and reverse (or front and back) side of the banknote?

Based on the answer for this surprisingly tough question, we have built the foundation for all “E”.

The answer to determining the reverse side is: **the opposite of the obverse**. (It was easy.☺).

The obverse side can be determined by few objectives.

1st (**major**) – The side that has printed the Section attributes, such as: The name of Section, the flag or the “seal” of Section

2nd – The name of issuing authority

3rd – The signatures of officials

4th – The denomination

5th – The numerator

If there is no **major** objective, the process of determination started with 2nd objective, and so on.

IBONS

The difference between the SWPMC (“P”) and “Esperanto System” (“E”) is the new approach to the task of how to incorporate newly discovered banknotes and their variations to the system without breaking up this format.

TABLE #8 (variations)

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a	Year of issue(and date)
b	Signatures
c	Numerator
e	Paper
f	Security elements
g	Sizes
h	Design elements
k	Colors
m	Watermarks

1) As you can see from Table #8 – all kind of variations got their own unique index, and all dates in “E” will follow these chart. It’s doesn’t matter to which Section they belonged. They always are referenced to the same **“letter” in low case**.

Example:

USA \$1 1909 E123**a3b2**, and Russia 1 Rub 2010 E456**a3b2** meant absolutely the same, in case to determine (and named) the variations. In both cases they are: The 3rd calendar year of issue, and the second type of signature (different for each entity).

2) The first year of issue ALWAYS marked up – **“a1”**. The following calendar year will be **“a2”** and so on.

3) Inside all these groups (a-h) the same differences also get the same unique number. For example: In “security elements” – **“f1”** – always correspond to **“Security strip”**, and **“f5”** to **“OVI”** (all break down - TBD)

Let’s compare approaches using in systems “P” and “E”

TASK: In 2000 – A new line of banknotes was launched.

2002 – Next issue.

2005 – Next issue with new signature.

2007 – Next issue with new security features (OVI).

In “P” it would look like:

a) 2000 – A new line of banknotes was launched.

b) 2002 – Next issue.

c) 2005 – Next issue with new signature.

d) 2007 – Next issue with new security features (OVI).

In “E” it always looks like:

- d1** (a1) 2000 – A new line of banknotes was launched.
- d2** (a3) 2002 – Next issue.
- d3** (a6 b2) 2005 – Next issue with new signature.
- d4** (a8 b2 f5) 2007 – Next issue with new security features (OVI).

Note:

To make it easy to communicate, and eliminate this bulky description the “**design**” number “**d**”. was introduced . Any changes means – new “design”. Users will see (and communicate) by these numbers.

For example: E123d1, E123d2, etc.

What happened if the new type of banknote was discovered? For example – 2004 issue

In “P” it can be looks like:

- a) 2000 – A new line of banknotes was launched.
- b) 2002 – Next issue.
- bA)** 2004 – Next issue.
- c) 2005 – Next issue with new signature.
- d) 2007 – Next issue with new security features (OVI).

Or, it can be changes in numbering:

- a) 2000 – A new line of banknotes was launched.
- b) 2002 – Next issue.
- c) 2004 – Next issue.
- d)** 2005 – Next issue with new signature.
- e) 2007 – Next issue with new security features (OVI).

In “E” it always looks like:

- d1** (a1) 2000 – A new line of banknotes was launched.
- d2** (a3) 2002 – Next Issue.
- d5** (a5) 2004 – Next Issue.
- d3** (a6 b2) 2005 – Next issue with new signature.
- d4** (a8 b2 f5) 2007 – Next issue with new security features (OVI).

As you can see this new entry does not affect the whole system of “E”.

Based on Table #8 (and break down to each line) you can easily recognize at a glance absolutely all issues.

(a8 b2 f5):

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this banknote was issued in the 8th calendar year, got 2nd type of signature and got “OVI”. ☺

The most significant difference between the “P” and “E” is the absolutely new approach to types of banknotes.

Using the English alphabet we create a table with 25 different types commonly using with any kind of banknotes. (see Table #9)

There are few rules regarding “TYPES”

1) To make it easy to recognize “TYPES” and to avoid the confusion with “variation” abbreviation – all TYPES are marked up with capital letters, and located following the SIB name.

For Example:

USA \$1 – regular banknote

USA-S \$1 -\$1 “Specimen”

USA-E \$1 -\$1 with Error

USA-F \$1 - \$1 “Forgery” etc.

2) Exclusion: type “-R”.

This type corresponds to reverse (or back) side of banknotes, and located ALWAYS on the end of numbering line:

USA-S \$1 2000 [Number/variation] [price] [special] - **obverse side**

USA-S \$1 2000 [Number/variation] [price] [special]-**R** - **reverse side**

Some types (mostly there are “SPECIMEN” and “PROOF”) are printed separately to each side of banknote. In case of describing the obverse side of uniform bon we are using term UNI; and for reverse side - RUNI

USA-S \$1 2000 [Number/variation] **UNI** [price] [special] - **obverse (or front) side**

USA-S \$1 2000 [Number/variation] **RUNI** [price] [special] - **reverse (or back) side**

Table #9

A	"Another" issuing authority (such as union)
B	Bonds
C	Cancelation
D	Propaganda
E	Error

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F	Forgery
G	Non currency
H	Printers Notes & ATM test notes
I	Other Issues(lottery, checks etc)
J	Restoration
K	Copies
L	Local Issues
M	Military Issues
N	Numismatic Products (& uncut pages)
O	Overprint
P	Proof
Q	Commemorative
R	Reminder
S	Specimen
T	Color Trial
U	Unissued (Not adopted)
V	Privet Issues
W	War camp Issues
X	Plastic (& credit cards)
Y	Fantasy Notes
Z	Replacements

The next, and the last, task was to incorporate to this numbering system the tracking system. To successfully solve this problem we need to understand, that any tracking system consists of three parts:

- 1) The price
- 2) The grading
- 3) The place and time (when any particular banknote was sold)

1) The price – is obvious.

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2) The grading.

The grading system which is being used in “E” fully complies with existing grading system introduced by IBNS, and is still used successfully around a world.

The only one difference is the “universal abbreviation”.

Please see the following line:

0; O; NEUF; AHI; KFR; FdS; and (1) DW - all these abbreviations mean the same:

UNCIRCULATED (**UNC**), but all of them are from different countries (Sweden, Denmark, France, Russia, Germany, Italy, and Brazil accordingly).

Based on a major principal of the “E” - “THE UNIVERSAL” we are proposing to use only digits to describe a grade.

So, what we have?

2- Good

3- Fine

4-Very Fine

5-UNC

This idea based on a psychological factor: We generally associate high quality of any product with the highest number on the appraisal scale.

To make this scale more flexible we want to introduce intermediate grades, such as “+”, and “-”.

Final scale looks like:

GRADING

			70-66 65-63	60	55	45	40	35
USA and English speaking lands				UNCIRCUL	About UNC	Extremely Fine	Very Fine	Fine
ABREVIATIONS (SWPMC)				UNC	aUNC	EF or XF	VF	F
034	BRA	Brazil		(1) DW	(2)	(3) S	(5) MBC	(7) BC
075	DNK	Denmark		O		O1	1+	1
093	FIN	Finland		0		01	1+	1
094	FRA	France		NEUF		SUP	TTBor TB	TB
110	DFR	Germany		KFR	I	II/VZGL	III/SS	IV/S
294	GBR	United		UNC	aUNC	EF or XF	VF	F

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		Kingdom						
146	ITA	Italy		FdS		SPL	BB	MB
200	NLD	Netherlands		FDC		Pr.	Z.F.	Fr.
210	NOR	Norway		0		01	1+	1
221	PRT	Portugal		Novo		Soberbo	Muito bo	
231	ROU	Romania		NC		EF	FF	F
233	RUS	Russian Federation (translit)		AHC	pANC	Ochen' Hoposhee		Horoshee
261	ESP	Spain		Lujo		SC,IC,EBC	MBC	BC
267	SWE	Sweden		0		01	1-	1
ESPERANTO			5+	5	5-	4+	4	3
			5++				4-	3+ 3-

Note: "5" - 60...62

"5+" -

63...65

"5++"-

66...70

Note: The grade "5" has few additional sub-grades. If the banknote is graded by PMG (or similar) on scale of "60.....70" – the corresponding scale by "E" will be:

"60...62" – "5"

"63...65" – "5+"

"66...70" – "5++"

3) The place and time (where and when)

The easiest part off all system.

All auctions(and any privet or market places) are having a corresponding abbreviation in two capital letters. With an indication of the year (00...99) give as full information "where and when"

AU	AUREA (Czech Rep)
BA	Baldwins Auction
BC	Bonistika Club (Russia)

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BM	BOWERS & MERENA
EB	EBAY
EE	Eeckhout Auction (Belgium)
FN	Fox-notes (Russia)
GB	GOLDEN BROTHER
HA	HERITAGE
HH	Heidrun Hohn (Germany)
SP	SPINK (England)
ST	STACKS
ZK	ЗНАКЪ (Russia)

And so on.

Conclusion

QUESTION:

How to describe the following sentence using the system “E”.

In 2007 , on an auction “Bowers and Merena” I bought the uniface Proof of Russian 10 Rubles 1875 (E123) in about fine grade, for 5000 Euro, with the second type of signature

ANSWER:

Russia-P 10 Rub 1875 E123d3 – “common” version

Russia-P 10 Rub 1875 E123d3 E5000(3-BM07) – short version

Russia-P 10 Rub 1875 E123d3(a1b2) UNI E5000(3-BM07) – full version

Note: Only Dollar and Euro can be recognized by appropriate symbol: “\$” and “E”. All other currencies did not have this kind of abbreviation. Therefore it can be recognized by the country of auction. For example: 5000(3-BC7) mean that this banknote was bought for 5000 Rubles, and the country-original of “BC” (“Bonistika Club”) is Russia.

Sincerely,
Dmitriy Litvak,
Founder IES (International Esperanto-System Society)