About the ISO Week / Date / Calendar:

ISO is the International Organization for Standardization. ISO has not sanctioned an alternative to the Gregorian Calendar currently used by most of the world. But it has provided standard notations for recording Gregorian dates, one of which dispenses with months. The ISO dating notations can be found in the technical standard referred to as ISO 8601.

Dating by weeks is common in European countries; and it is becoming increasingly more common world-wide. All 52 or 53 weeks of the year receive a number, with days of the week numbered 1 through 7, beginning with Monday.

So a typical week date notation would look like this: 1995-W03-6. That notation indicates the sixth day of the third week of 1995. The "W" in the notation is optional. The "0" should precede week numbers less than 10, so all week numbers have two digits.

The difficulty in dating by weeks is fixing the number of the week at year ends and beginnings. Because years often begin in the middle of the week, a standard is needed to identify the first week of the year.

The ISO 8601 rule is: The first week of the year is the week containing the first Thursday.

So if January 1 falls on a Friday, it belongs to the last week of the previous year.
If December 31 falls on a Wednesday, it belongs to week 1 of the following year.

e.g.:
Week 1 of 2009 is the week that starts on 2008-12-29 and ends on 2009-01-04
because January 1th = 1st Thursday of 2009. (Year 2009 has 53 weeks)
Week 1 of 2010 is the week that starts on 2010-01-04 and ends on 2010-01-10
because January 7th = 1st Thursday of 2010. (Year 2010 has 52 weeks)
Week 1 of 2011 is the week that starts on 2011-01-03 and ends on 2011-01-09
because January 6th = 1st Thursday of 2011. (Year 2011 has 52 weeks)

Great care has been taken to ensure that details contained herein are accurate,
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