

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22/WG9 N 444

Meeting Report: ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22 (Programming Languages, Operating Systems and Environments), 6-10 September 2004, Jeju, Republic of Korea

*Reported by Jim Moore, The MITRE Corporation, 1.703.883.7396,
James.W.Moore@ieee.org*

I was not able to attend this meeting. This report is assembled from various documents distributed after the meeting as well as email correspondence with some of the participants. WG9 is fortunate that Kiyoshi Ishihata and Steve Michell attended the meeting and represented the interests of WG9. In addition, John Benito (the convener of the Working Group on the C Language) represented me in discussions regarding character set coding.

WG9 participants need not take any actions upon reading this report. I will distribute specific requests when action is required.

WG9 Requests Sent to SC22

Periodic Review

According to the JTC1 Directives, standards must be reviewed every five years or currency. The rules are a bit more complicated for Technical Reports. The SC22 Secretariat determined that Type 3 Technical Reports such as ISO/IEC TR 15942:2000, *Guidance for the use of Ada Programming Language in High-Integrity Systems*, should be reviewed every five years. Accordingly, I asked SC22 to confirm the document for another five year period. The next resolution does that.

Resolution 04-05: Standards for 2005 Periodic Review

JTC 1/SC 22 recommends to JTC 1 that at the end of their 5-year review period, the following standards and technical report be confirmed ... ISO/IEC TR 15942: 2000, *Guidance for the use of Ada Programming Language in High-Integrity Systems*.

Appointment of Project Editor

WG9 requested that Greg Gicca be appointed an editor of ISO/IEC 15291. The next resolution does that.

Resolution 04-10: Appointment of Project Editors

JTC 1/SC 22 approves the following appointments as SC 22 Project Editors ... Greg Gicca (US) for ISO/IEC 15291 Ada Semantic Interface Specification.

You may note that the resolution mistakenly identifies the US national body as the nominating organization rather than ACM SIGAda. I am corresponding with the SC22 Secretariat to resolve this problem.

Approach to Coded Character Sets

Finally, WG9 requested SC22 endorsement of its approach to character set coding. The following resolution provides that endorsement.

Resolution 04-15: Coded Character Sets

JTC 1/SC 22 agrees that the proposed implementation of coded character set support described in document N 3758 agrees with the principles for coded character set support previously adopted by SC 22, notably resolution 02-24. JTC 1/SC 22 instructs WG 9 to consider referencing ISO/IEC TR 10176 Annex A in the revision of the Ada language standard.

SC22 Requests Sent to WG9

Terminology

Terminology has become a problem. The ISO/IEC 2382 series of vocabulary standards is growing obsolete and there has been no clear plan to update them. The latest idea is to devolve the various parts of the standard to JTC1 SubCommittees and ask them to maintain the documents. SC22 anticipated this move and asked Roger Scowen (UK) to prepare a plan, ultimately circulated as 22N3784. The following resolutions take steps toward implementing the plan. I will be sending follow-up requests on this item.

Resolution 04-01: Establishment of an Ad Hoc Group on Terminology

JTC 1/SC 22 instructs all SC 22 WG conveners to send the SC 22 document N3784 "Terminology in ISO/IEC 2382 and some SC 22 standards" to their project editors for review.

Project editors, upon their review of the text, are instructed to send no later than 7 March 2005 all comments and the text (in text format) of any definition clauses that their Standard contains to Roger Scowen (email: roger.scowen@npl.co.uk) for inclusion in an updated version of N3784.

Resolution 04-11: SC 22 Representative to JTC 1 Vocabulary Group

JTC 1/SC 22 appoints Roger Scowen as its representative to the JTC 1 Ad Hoc on JTC 1 Vocabulary.

Other Items of Interest

Freely Available Specifications

Many JTC1 documents including Technical Reports are freely available to the public. The next resolution is intended to improve the public's awareness of these documents:

Resolution 04-09: Further Promotion of Freely Available Specifications

JTC 1/SC 22 appreciates JTC 1's support for making standards freely available on the Web, and plans on continuing to utilize this capability. However, SC 22 is concerned that the mechanism for obtaining electronic versions of such standards free of charge is hidden from the public at large, which is the very group that SC 22 wishes to reach. Specifically, a search for a freely available standard by number using the most common web search engine does not turn up the "Freely available JTC 1 documents" page of the JTC 1-endorsed home, www.jtc1.org. However, it does lead the searcher to the ISO On-Line Store page, which allows the searcher to purchase these documents. No statement is made at that site that these documents are actually available electronically without charge.

In order to accurately inform the public at large of the free availability of such standards, SC 22 instructs its Chair to request that the web page on the ISO On-Line Store site describing each of these standards clearly state that there is no charge for electronically downloadable versions.

Future of SC22

An Ad Hoc group considered future work for SC22. I contributed a brief paper regarding support for high integrity applications. I will report to you separately on this item. The Ad Hoc group provided a report resulting in the following resolution:

Resolution 04-13: Ad Hoc on the Future Directions for SC 22

JTC 1/SC 22 resolves that the Ad Hoc on the Future Directions for SC 22 be continued for a period of one year with Jonathan Hodgson as convener. The Ad Hoc is charged to explore the following four areas agreed upon at the Ad Hoc Meeting on the Future of SC 22 held on 6 September 2004:

- Support for High Integrity Applications
- Libraries
- Industrial Consortia
- Standards Education

SC 22 instructs the convener to organize a meeting of the Ad Hoc in March 2005 to report on and prepare recommendations for the 18th SC 22 plenary, on future work directions for SC 22. SC 22 instructs that agenda time at the March meeting is to be given only to those items for which a written contribution is submitted by 15 January 2005. Should no written contributions be submitted for this meeting, the meeting shall be canceled.

Next Meeting

Resolution 04-22: JTC 1/SC 22 Plenary for 2005

JTC 1/SC 22 thanks Canada for its generous offer to host the 2005 Plenary and is pleased to accept the offer. The Plenary is scheduled in Mt. Tremblant, Quebec for 29 September-3 October 2005.