

JTC1/SC2/WG2/IRG

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Activity Report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Adoption of ISO 10646

Since the 28th IRG meeting held in June 2007, matters relating to the adoption of the ISO 10646 standard in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) are as follows:

1. As of September 2007, we have accepted in principle fourteen (14) new characters for inclusion into the Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS)¹. Twelve (12) of the fourteen (14) characters already exist in the ISO 10646 standard, and HKSAR will not submit them for inclusion in the standard. For the other two (2) new characters, HKSAR will submit for inclusion once they are formally accepted into the HKSCS. A list of approved HKSCS characters since the publication of HKSCS-2004 is available at the following URL:
<http://www.info.gov.hk/digital21/eng/hkscs/download/newchar.pdf>
2. The HKSAR Government has developed an ‘IICORE Comparison Utility’ on Ubuntu Desktop Linux platform to promote the adoption of the IICORE, in addition to the IICORE Comparison Utility on Windows XP platform already made available in 2006. The function of the IICORE Comparison Utility is to compare and check the Chinese contents of websites against the 9,810 IICORE characters. The Utility can be used by webmasters to determine if Chinese website can be accessed accurately by IICORE-compliant mobile devices. The Utility and user guide are available at the following URL:
<http://www.info.gov.hk/digital21/eng/structure/iicorecompare.html>

¹ The Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS) contains special Chinese characters used in the HKSAR that are not contained in the Big-5 character set. The latest version is the HKSCS-2004 available on the web site: www.digital21.gov.hk/eng/hkscs/index.html.

3. As a further step to promote the wider adoption of the ISO 10646 standard in Hong Kong, the HKSAR Government has promulgated in August 2007 the "Revised Principles for the Inclusion of Characters in the Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS)" to be effective from 31 March 2008. The HKSAR Government has informed the local IT industry about the change in writing and posted the decision on the official web site.
http://www.info.gov.hk/digital21/eng/hkscs/revised_principles.html
4. To raise the awareness of and foster the adoption of the ISO 10646 standard and IICORE in the Hong Kong IT community, the HKSAR Government has launched a Common Chinese Language Interface Thematic website earlier this year. The website has been designed to categorize information in user clusters with content and features consolidated for youth and students, parents and teachers, IT professionals, and SMEs. There is also a special section to invite the industry and academia to contribute practical solutions and useful hints to tackle daily usability problems. We have produced in 2006 a limited number of multimedia CD-ROM on promoting Common Chinese Language Interface and distributed to schools and public. To allow more people to view the content, we have made available a web version of the CD-ROM for access from both Windows and MacOS platforms.
<http://www.ccli.gov.hk>
5. The HKSAR team has completed the checking of the CJK Extension D v.2.0 document for the development of the ISO 10646 standard through sharing of responsibilities and collaborating with delegates of other IRG member bodies.

Office of the Government Chief Information Officer
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
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