Title: ISO/IEC FCD 2375: Editors' Disposition of Comment
Source: Michael Everson, Joan Aliprand, Edwin Hart
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Thirteen positive votes were received from Canada, China, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Republic of Korea, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, and Romania. **One** positive vote with comments was received from the U.S. **One** negative vote with comments was received from Japan. The following disposition of comments is proposed:

A number of changes requested by ISO have been incorporated into the FDIS; for instance, the layout of the definitions has been changed to be in accordance with the new ISO directives for definition formatting.

Comments accompanying US ballot on ISO/IEC FCD 2375.3

US National Body to **Approve with Comments** FCD 2375, *Information technology-Procedure for registration of escape sequences and coded character sets*

U.S. Comments on FCD 2375

Comment 1 on Clause 7.3 [now 6.3]
The URL in section 7.3 of the FCD is invalid and needs to be corrected to:

   www.iso.org/mara

In response to SC 2, ISO created this short URL for the ISO "maintenance agencies and registration authorities" so that standards could include the short URL and be guaranteed that the URL would always point to the then current list. Since ISO also has a URL in French, the editor may want to reference both, for example,

   http://www.iso.ch/mara (English)
   http://www.iso.ch/mara-fr (French (français))

Accepted.

Comment 2 on Clause 14.1 [now 13.1]
The US would like to see a slight clarification in the text of clause 14.1. The current text reads as follows:

   14 Evaluation of mapping to ISO/IEC 10646
   14.1 The Registration Authority shall circulate the registration application and mapping first to the members of the RA-JAC for a technical review of not more than two months.

It is still not quite clear from the wording of Clause 14.1 that the scope of the task is a technical review of the mapping versus a review of the entire application along with the mapping. Adding the text, "of the mapping", after "a technical review" would resolve this concern.

Unfortunately, inserting this text makes the target of the subsequent prepositional phrase, "of not more than two months", somewhat confusing. The US suggests the following replacement paragraph to resolve its concerns with clause 14.1:
Proposed Text for Clause 14.1

   14.1 The Registration Authority shall circulate the registration application and mapping first to the members of the RA-JAC for a technical review of the mapping. The period of this review shall be not more than two months.

Accepted.

Comments accompanying Japanese ballot on ISO/IEC CD 2375.3

Japan disapproves the FCD 2375 (SC2 N3592) with the following comments. When these comments are accepted, Japan will change its vote approval.

MAJOR TECHNICAL COMMENTS:
J-1. Clause 11.2.1 [now 10.2.1]
Insert ", which belongs to the subcommittee concerned with coded character sets, " after "(RA-JAC)" at the second line. RATIONALE: RA-JAC is the organ defined only in this standard. Therefore, this standard shall also define its position in the structure of JTC 1. Japan supposes that RA/JAC is subordinate to SC2.

Accepted in principle. The sentence "The RA-JAC reports to the subcommittee concerned with coded character sets" will be added to the end of the clause.

J-2. A.1.1.1
Delete "-- 8-bit coded graphic character set". RATIONALE: ISO/IEC 2022 does not have any First Intermediate Bytes to designate an 8-bit coded graphic character set.

Accepted.

J-3. Annex D
Since J-2, delete Clause D.2. Any code tables for 8-bit graphic character sets shall not be used neither in an application for registration nor in The International Register. It causes to change Clause A.1.2.1.1 of Annex A.

Accepted in principle. 2375 allows the registration of coding systems not conformant with ISO/IEC 2022; see A.1.1. The table will be moved to the end of the annex but not deleted. The reference to "8-bit (single octet) coded graphic character sets" was deleted from Clause A.1.2.1.1, and a new clause (A.1.2.1.3) on graphic character sets non-conformant to ISO/IEC 2022 was added. At D-2, additional explanatory text will be added: "The shaded blocks in this example indicate general practice for such character sets. They do not imply conformance with ISO/IEC 2022." What is currently used as an example happens to correspond to the layout found in Windows, Macintosh, and other vendors' code pages. (We did not deliberately base the example on Windows code pages. We only discovered this afterwards.) Eliminating the shading entirely might mislead users into thinking that a non-conformant code set was not allowed to have any reserved positions.

J-4. Clause 13.6 [now 12.6]

Delete "and the mapping" in the first paragraph. And delete whole of the third paragraph "When difficulties with the mapping …. in accordance with clause 14.". RATIONALE: A mapping in an application for registration is an inseparable portion of the application itself; moreover, Registration Procedure and Evaluation of Mapping shall be in a single thread of tasks of the Registration Authority.

Accepted in part. The primary purpose of ISO/IEC 2375 is the registration of coded-character-sets. A character set can be registered even if the mapping is rejected. Mappings are informative additions; it is the character set which gets the escape sequence.

The third paragraph of Clause 12.6 is optional, as indicated by the verb "may". Contrast this with the first paragraph, which is mandatory, as indicated by the verb "shall". Whether the third paragraph of Clause 13.6 is ever utilized is entirely at the discretion of the Registration Authority.

The third paragraph of Clause 12.6 was added in response to a known problem. In 1998, a number of applications for registration which included mappings were submitted to the Registration Authority. The coded character sets in the applications were International Standards developed by ISO/TC 46/SC 4 (the Owner of Origin). Escape sequences for these coded character sets were needed by libraries which use the UNIMARC data exchange format.

When these applications were circulated to members of SC2 for comment, a national body disagreed with the mappings for certain characters. Because of the objections, the Registration Authority put the applications for registration on hold until the problems with the mappings (only part of each application) could be resolved. Libraries are still waiting for the escape sequences that they need. Because escape sequences have not been

assigned to the International Standards, the coded character sets cannot be used in library data.

The need to resolve this impasse led SC2 to approve revision of ISO 2375. If the third paragraph of Clause 12.6 had been available at that time, here is what would have happened: The RA evaluates the International Standards, and approves them for registration. The RA assigns escape sequences to the International Standards, and publishes these. Libraries are now able to use the International Standards in data exchange. In parallel, the RA takes action to resolve the problems with the mappings. The experts on the RA-JAC address the problems and consult with the SA and with ISO TC46/SC4 if needed. When consensus is achieved, the RA publishes the mappings. If consensus is not achieved, the RA refuses to publish the mappings.

The third paragraph of Clause 12.6 is essential to expedite the processing of applications for registration of coded character sets. Because of this paragraph, problems with a mapping will not delay the assignment of an escape sequence to a coded character set.

As a result of comment J-4, the term "may" was changed, where appropriate, to "should" to clarify the meaning. In the third paragraph of Clause 12.6, the verb "may" indicates that use of this paragraph is optional. Contrast this with the first paragraph of the same clause where the verb, "shall", indicates that the first paragraph is mandatory. However, the term, "may", is not specified in "Annex G (normative) Verbal forms for the expression of provisions" of ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, Rules for the structure and drafting of International Standards. We have therefore changed the verb in the third paragraph of Clause 12.6 from "may" to "should". Whether the third paragraph of Clause 12.6 is ever utilized is entirely at the discretion of the Registration Authority. This means that removing the mapping for separate consideration is preferred but not required.

In addition, the editor reviewed all instances of "may" and decided that replacing "may" with "should" is grammatically appropriate in the second sentence of Clause 12.7.

J-5. Annex F

Since J-4, Japan proposes a revised flow chart (see the attachment).

Rejected, since J-4 is accepted in part. The present procedure is more complicated to allow for the speedier registration of the coded-character-set (which is the original and primary intent of 2375) by processing the mapping as a parallel task that comes together after the coded-character-set is registered and after the mapping has had its own separate review and approval process.

The increase in complexity occurs ONLY WHEN there is disagreement over the mapping. If the mapping is correct (in the opinion of both the RA-JAC and the SC2 members), processing is a straight-line procedure.

In clause A.2.5 additional clarifying text has been added in accordance with the Japanese comment on the draft Disposition of Comments.

OTHER COMMENTS:
J-6. Contents
Change "14 Technical review of mapping to 1SO/IEC 10646" for "14 Evaluation of mapping to ISO/IEC 10646".

Accepted in principle [now Clause 13]. It is in fact a technical review of the mapping which occurs, not an evaluation of its merits. The three places where this is referred to in the text will be harmonized so that all three say "Technical review of mapping ".

J-7. Contents
Change "Annex A: International register" for "Annex A: Details of registrations".
Accepted in principle. The title of Annex A has been changed to "Details of registrations in the International Register" to avoid confusion with the FDIS Clause 4, which has the title "International Register".

J-8. Clause 3 [now Clause 2]
Change "ISO/IEC 6937:1994" for "ISO/IEC 6937: 2001".

Accepted.

J-9. Clause 5, 5.1, 5.2 and 7.2.1 [now 4, 4.1, 4.2, 6.2.1]
Describe what The International Register is in Clause 5, and harmonize the long name for "The International Register" with ISO/IEC 2022 and the existing International Register.

> In Clause 7.2.1, "ISO/IEC 2375 register of the meanings assigned to escape sequences"
> In ISO/IEC 2022: 1994, "The ISO International register of coded character sets to be used with escape sequences"
> Title of the existing International Register, "INTERNATIONAL REGISTER OF CODED CHARACTER SETS TO BE USED WITH ESCAPE SEQUENCES"

Japan proposes to rewrite these clauses as follows:

> **5 The International Register**
> In this international standard, The International Register (IR) stands for the International Register of coded character sets to be used with escape sequences.
> **5.1 Content of The International Register**
> The International Register shall consist of three parts: a set of registration, mapping tables associated with registration, and indices to the registrations.
> **5.2 Format of The International Register**
> The International Register shall be available.... (Same as this FCD)

7.2.1 The Registration Authority shall maintain The International Register.

Accepted in principle. Titles and text will be harmonized to account for this comment.
J-10. Clause 5.4 [now Clause 4.4]
Change the fifth bullet for "-- whether the coded character set has a mapping to ISO/IEC 10646 or not". RATIONALE: Though the Japanese comment J-34 for the 2nd CD 2375 was accepted at the disposition of comments, it is not applied into this FCD.

Accepted in principle. We apologize for having missed the change between the CD and the FCD. However, we note that the rationale for the request in J-10 (and as previously requested in J-34 on the CD except that the reference was to Clause A.4.13 rather than A.5) is not consistent with the intent of the fifth bullet in Clauses 5.4 of the FCD and A.5 of the CD.

The text "-- the coded character sets with a mapping to ISO/IEC 10646" means that there shall be an index showing all registrations which include a mapping. At the present time, it is possible to view registrations by registration number (the view is of all registrations arranged by registration number) or by type (all registrations of a particular type arranged by registration number). The fifth bullet adds another view: all registrations which include a mapping table. The ordering of registrations in this view is not specified, but could be by registration number as in the current indices.

The Japanese NB comments have made the editors aware that the wording of the fifth bullet in Clause 5.4 must be clarified, and we have done this. We hope that the new wording satisfies the concerns of the Japanese NB. We propose to change the bullet to "the coded character set registrations which include a mapping".

Remark: J-34 for the 2nd CD had a mistake. It should have been for Clause A.5 of the 2nd CD rather than for Clause A.4.13.

Noted.

J-11. Clause 6 [now Clause 5]
Change "ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2" for "ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2". (Insert spaces.) Check through all of the text.

Accepted.

J-12. Clause 7.1.1 [now Clause 6.1.1]
Change "appointed by ISO" for "appointed by ISO and IEC".

Accepted.

J-13. Clause 10.1.1 [now Clause 9.1.1]
Change "-- any member body of ISO or IEC" for "-- any national body of ISO or IEC". RATIONALE: ISO/IEC

Directives, Part 1 Procedures for the technical work calls "national body".

Accepted.

J-14. Clause 12.1.1 [now Clause 11.1.1]
Change "cover sheet" in the first paragraph for "cover page".

Accepted. Both terms appeared several times in the text and all will be changed to "cover page".

J-15. Clause 12.1.4 [now Clause 11.1.4]
Delete "to" after "The Sponsoring Authority may".

Accepted.

J-16. Clause 13.5 [now Clause 12.5]
Change "If the registration includes a mapping…" for "If the application for registration includes a mapping…".

Accepted.

J-17. Clause 16.5.4 [now 15.5.4]
Change "…for vote according to the Directives for the technical work of ISO/IEC" for "…for vote according to the Directives for the technical work of ISO/IEC JTC 1".

Accepted in principle.

J-18. Clause 18.2.3 [now 17.2.3]
Change "if it been been submitted" for "if it had been submitted".

Accepted.

J-19. Annex A, Clause A.1.2.1.2
Change "For C0 sets the layout of the tables should be that shown in annex 0." for "…. shown in annex D.5.".

Accepted in principle. Because annex D.3 with the 8-bit code table was moved to the end of annex D, "annex 0" was replaced with "annex D.4" and "annex D.6" was updated with "annex D.5".

J-20. Annex A, Clause A.2.11
Change "the character tabulation control character of ISO/IEC 6429" in the second bullet for "the control character HT (CHARACTER TABULATION) of ISO/IEC 6429". RATIONALE: Character names shall be capitalized. In addition, an acronym HT for CHARACTER TABULATION is used in the fourth bullet.

Accepted in principle. The actual wording will be "CHARACTER TABULATION (HT)"; a similar change will be made later on in this same clause for CARRIAGE RETURN (CF) and LINE FEED (LF).

J-21. Annex G
Change '-- Clause 14, "Technical review of registration applications"' in the second bullet for '-- Clause 14, "Evaluation of mapping to ISO/IEC 10646"'.

Accepted in principle as for J-6 above.