ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2/IRG

Ideographic Rapporteur Group

(IRG)

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Activity Report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Adoption of ISO 10646

Since the 30th IRG meeting held in June 2008, matters relating to the adoption of the ISO 10646 standard in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) are as follows:

1. Since the publish of the HKSCS-2004 (Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set[1]) document in 2005, 68 new characters have been approved for inclusion into the HKSCS. Six (6) of these 68 additional characters are not yet included in the ISO 10646 standard. The list of approved characters is available at the following URL: http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/ccli/eng/hkscs/download/newchar.pdf

   Given one of the six (6) unencoded characters is already in CJK Ext. C, HKSAR has submitted the remaining five (5) HKSCS characters to WG2. WG2 has accepted to encode and assigned code points to these 5 HKSCS characters.

2. The compilation of the HKSCS-2008 document is in progress, and it will be the last edition with assignment of Big-5 code points to newly included HKSCS characters.

3. The HKSAR team has completed the review on UNC v30, PnP version 1 draft 2, the Annex S draft version and unification/non-unification examples. Comments have been submitted to Chief Editor and ad hoc review group for PnP and Annex S for consideration.

4. We have recommended strengthening the adoption of ISO/IEC 10646 standard as the coding standard for newly created websites with Chinese contents in the updated version of the Interoperability Framework (IF) which supports the HKSAR Government's strategy of providing client-centric joined-up services by facilitating the interoperability of technical systems between Government departments, as well as between Government systems.

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[1] The Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS) contains special Chinese characters used in the HKSAR. The latest version is the HKSCS-2004 available on the web site: http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/ccli/eng/hkscs/hkscs_2004_summary.html.

5. Since the promulgation of the "Revised Principles for the inclusion of Characters in the HKSCS" on March 31, 2008, we have received encouraging support from Government departments in respect of the adoption of the ISO/IEC 10646 standard as the coding standard of their websites with Chinese contents.

6. All the 55 characters being applied for inclusion in the HKSCS since June 2008 were already in the ISO/IEC 10646 standard. According to the Revised Principles, the applicants were advised to adopt the prevailing ISO/IEC 10646 standard.

7. We are developing an IICORE listing utility that enables web masters and end users to assess the extent to which handsets and PDAs support IICORE characters. The utility is based on Java ME software that operates on popular handsets and PDAs.

8. We noticed from the Unicode website that there are only French and Japanese translations of Unicode Terminologies. To help further arouse awareness of the ISO/IEC 10646 standard, we plan to consolidate the Chinese translation of the ISO/IEC 10646 terms and Unicode related glossaries and submit to Unicode Consortium for their reference.

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