Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
UCS

The main focus of work over the past several months for the Unicode Technical Committee has been preparation for the release of version 5.2.0 of the Unicode Standard, currently scheduled for September 2009. The first beta was released to the public on 10 June 2009.

Version 5.2.0 will be the first version of Unicode including the characters in Extension C. This means a significant update to the Unihan database, the UTC s repository of information on CJKV ideographs. In addition to the new characters included, the Unihan database has been updated with Mandarin readings for ideographs found in the Hanyu Da Zidian.

The UTC hopes that it will be possible to publish a set of radical-stroke cahrts for all the ideographs in Unicode and ISO/IEC 10646, including Extension C. This may not be possible owing to the unavailability of fonts.

The UTC and NCITS held a joint meeting in May 2009. Among the topics of discussion were the results of the Dublin WG2 meeting. Some concerns were expressed regarding the source information for characters in Extension D; these are discussed in some detail in IRG N1573, which L2 and the UTC hopes the Editorial Committee will consider at this meeting.

L2 and the UTC also would be interested in an IRG review of WG2 document N3643, regarding extensions to the set of Ideographic Description Characters.