

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set UCS

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 IRG N2453

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1. Progress of the revision of GB 18030 *Information technology -- Chinese coded character set*

GB 18030 *Information technology -- Chinese coded character set* is one of the most important mandatory national standards of PRC. It has been revised once and the latest edition is GB 18030-2005. The third edition is now under review by the related authority.

To be noticed, according to the *Measures for the Administration of Mandatory National Standards* issued by the State Administration for Market Regulation of PRC in 2020, there is a big change that in the third edition the full text of GB 18030 should be all mandatory instead of partially mandatory in its previous edition.

In consideration of the great difficulty and cost of supporting such an enormous number of encoded characters, the third edition of GB 18030 sets up three implementation levels for different types of products to choose:

Implement Level 1--including 1-byte/2-byte characters and CJK Extension A.

Implement Level 2--including all characters of Implement Level 1 and the *The General Purpose Normalized Hanzi List* (通用规范汉字表)

Implement Level 3--including all characters of the coded character set

2. Progress of the Project “Chinese Characters Repertoire” (中華字庫)

2.1 Future Submissions

The “Chinese Characters Repertoire Project” keeps on doing research in characters used in classical ancient books. There are more than 50,000 new characters collected from the printed literature. 40% of those characters, i.e. 20,000 or so, are picked out and will be submitted in batches.

For Working Set 2021, The Chinese Character Repertoire prepared 500 Han characters and 300 Zhuang characters for the new IRG Working Set.

The Chinese Character Repertoire and China National Committee for Terms in Sciences and Technologies are working collaboratively on collecting Chinese characters of scientific terms. After checking scientific and technological documents and databases of traditional Chinese medicine, zoology and botany, 235 new characters have been found out by the China National Committee for Terms in Sciences and Technologies.

Meanwhile, The Chinese Character Repertoire is also collaborating with Place Names Research Center of Sichuan International Studies University on collecting Chinese characters of place names. The Place Names Research Center provided 145 Chinese characters of place names.

Also, Institute of Applied Linguistic Ministry of Education plans to hand over some un-encoded characters to The Chinese Character Repertoire.

2.2 Fonts

There are 790 thousand of 1 million fonts made by the end of 2020.

END.