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DRAFT

English Version

Information Technology - Registration of Cultural Elements, including EN 29945-2 POSIX locales and charmaps

Technologies de l'information - Enregistrement des éléments culturels, EN 29945-2 POSIX POSIX locales et charmaps inclus

Informationstechnologie - Registrierung von kulturelle Elementen, inklusive EN 29945-2 POSIX POSIX Locales und Charmaps

CEN/CENELEC

The joint European Standards Institution
Organisation Commune Européenne de Normalisation
Die Gemeinsame Europäische Normeninstitution

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FOREWORD

This European Standard (EN) was written by Working Group
CEN TC304/WG2 (Cultural Elements) with help from CEN TC304/WG1 (European String Ordering Rules) (TC304 secretariat held by STRI). It is consistent with the rules outlayed for the informal locale and charmap registry organised by ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22/WG15 RIN - POSIX Rapporteur Group on Internationalization in cooperation with ISO/IEC JTC1-/SC22/WG20 - Internationalization, and an effort has been made to align it with the rules (under revision) used within the X/Open industrial consortium.

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1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies the procedures to be followed in preparing, publishing and maintaining a register of cultural specifications for computer use, including freeform sultural elements specifications, POSIX locales and charmaps. The registry is in source form, and the cultural specifications shall be specified in a coded character set independent way.

A numeric identifier and a token name shall be assigned to each registered cultural element specification, POSIX locale or charmap. These identifiers are for unique identification of the cultural specification, and intended to be used with POSIX locale handling mechanisms and possibly other locale and charmap usage, such as in programming languages, database handling and communication protocols and for visual identification and specification by human operators.

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of CEN and CENELEC maintain registers of currently valid standards.

ISO 639 Code for the representation of names of languages (1988)

ISO 646 Information Processing - ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange (1983)

ISO 3166 Code for the representation of names of countries (1988)

ISO 4217 Codes for the representation of currencies and funds (1987)

ISO 8601 Data elements and interchange formats - information interchange - representation of dates and times (1986)

EN 29945-2 Information Technology - Portable Operating System Interface (POSIX) Part 2: Shell and Utilities (ISO/IEC DIS 1992).

ISO/IEC 10646 Information Technology - Universal Coded Character set (DIS 1992)

3 DEFINITIONS

3.1 The following terms are taken from EN 29945-2:

a) Locale

b) Charmap

c) Source File Format

3.2 The following terms are defined in this specification:

"Cultural Specification" is either a cultural elements specification, a POSIX locale or a POSIX Charmap or a Charsymbmap.

"Charsymbmap" is a definition of a mapping between symbolic character names and characters, further described in 6.9

"Cultural Element Specification" is a description for computer use of culturally dependent information, further described in 6.2

4 REGISTRATION AUTHORITY[1]

The Registration Authority shall maintain a register of cultural specifications and their numeric and alphabetic identifiers. The contents of this register shall be available to CEN/CENELEC members and to the public in general.

With regard to the assignment of numeric and alphabetic identifiers to cultural specifications, and of subsequent additions of cultural specifications to the register, the responsibilities of the Registration Authority shall be

a) to receive from Sponsoring Authorities proposals of cultural specifications and associated token identifiers

b) to ascertain that each proposal complies with clause 6;

c) to circulate proposals to Member Bodies of the committee concerned with the proposed identifiers for a 3-month period for information and comments;

d) to take into account the comments received and where possible to integrate them in

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[1] CEN/CENELEC councils have not currently designated any organisation as Registration Authority for this Standard, but in the interim, to improve cooperation with ISO/IEC JTC17SC22/WG15 RIN, proposals should be sent to the following organisation, who will operate according to this Standard:

WG15RIN locale and charmap collection
C/o Danish UNIX User Group
Fruebjergvej 3
DK-2100 København Ø
Danmark
Fax: +45 31 20 89 48
X.400: c=dk,a=dk400,p=minerva,o=dkuug,sn=wg15rin-collect
Internet: wg15rin-collect@dkuug.dk

the final documents;

e) to assign the next available number to be used as a numeric identifier when the proposal complies with the rules, unless the cultural specification is identical to one already registered, in which case the existing registration shall be augmented with the new token identifiers;

f) to promulgate to all Member Bodies the cultural specifications and identifiers that has been registered;

g) to inform the appropriate Sponsoring Authority when a proposal does not comply to the rules.

A critical concept in the registration process is that the contents of an individual registration is never changed or deleted once it has been registered (except for editorial errors and name additions). This is contrasted with a standard which must be reviewed and/or revised periodically. When a standard is revised that has been used as basis for a cultural element specification, a locale or charmap, these are not changed in the register. If a Sponsoring Authority desires recognition of such a revision, a new registration shall be made by following the normal procedures.

5 SPONSORING AUTHORITIES

5.1 Proposals for registration of cultural specifications may be made only by the following, which for the purpose of this Standard are Sponsoring Authorities:

a) any CEN/CENELEC or ISO/IEC technical committee or subgroup;

b) any Member Body of CEN/CENELEC or ISO/IEC

c) any organisation having liaison with CEN/CENELEC or ISO/IEC

5.2 The responsibility of the Sponsoring Authorities shall be

a) to receive proposals concerning cultural specifications from their respective countries or organisations;

b) to make certain that proposals follow the rules for definitions outlined in clause 6;

c) to effect such rationalization or coordination of these proposals as they may desire;

d) to forward to the Registration Authority those proposals that have their support

e) to make known within their respective countries or organisations the result of the registration procedure as transmitted to them by the Registration Authority.

6 RULES FOR PROPOSALS

6.1. The Cultural Specifications are collected in Source File Format.

6.2. The format of the cultural elements specifications is free text, and should contain clauses describing alphanumeric deterministic ordering, numeric and monetary formatting, monetary and date/time conventions including time zone and daylight savings rules, affirmative and negative answering.

The format of the locale and charmap sources shall be conformant to the latest version of EN 29945-2.

6.3. The locale shall define all standard categories - for example by copying categories of a standard locale.

6.4. The sources shall be encoded in ISO/IEC 646:1991 International Reference Version coded character set (ISO 2375 registration number 6). For enhanced network portability it is recommended to use only the invariant part of ISO/IEC 646:1991 (ISO 2375 registration number 170), which contains 83 graphical characters. Comments should be primarily in the English language, so they can be widely understood.

6.5. The sources shall be delivered electronically, either via electronic mail or on a diskette to the Registration Authority.

6.6. A written application releasing copyrights of the contributed sources underwritten by authorized personnel on behalf of the contributing organisation shall be sent to the Registration Authority.

6.7. The written cultural specification application shall contain the following information:

1. Organisation name
2. Organisation postal address
3. Name of contact person
4. Electronic mail address of contact person
5. Fax number for contact person, in international format.

6. Short name for organisation, used in locale name
7. Natural language, as two-letter form of ISO 639
8. Territory, as two-letter form of ISO 3166
9. If not for general use, an intended user audience, e.g. librarians
10. If for use of a special application, short name of application
11. Version number and revision date.

If any of the above information is non-existent, it must be stated in each case. The information in items 6 to 11 is used in the naming of the locale and may contain the characters uppercase and lowercase forms of

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

and the special characters:

!"%&’()*+-.0123456789:<>_

Case is not significant in the name.

There is no official printed form to be filled out.

6.8. Using the information from the application item 6 to 11, the name of the locale will be:

6;7,8,9,10;11

where 9 and 10 and unnecessary commas may be omitted.

6.9. Cultural Elements Specifications and Locale sources must be specified in a coded character set independent way, using symbolic character names. Relation between the symbolic character names and characters shall be specified via a "charsymbmap" table, giving the symbolic character name and the ISO/IEC 10646 canonical encoding in hexadecimal form (with a preceding ’x’) and the long ISO/IEC 10646 character name, these fields separated by one or more spaces or tabs on a line. It is recommended to use whenever possible symbolic names for characters specified in EN 29945-2 (currently ISO/IEC DIS) Annex G.

6.10. For each character not specified in ISO/IEC 10646, the following information must be given electronically:

1. short symbolic character name in invariant ISO/IEC 646:1991.
2. verbal description
3. reference to character set standards, dictionaries or other sources
4. languages for which it is used (ISO 639 2-letter form)
5. transliteration into invariant ISO/IEC 646:1991.
6. possibly other characteristics such as radical/stroke
7. possibly an English meaning of the character
8. possibly a graphic representation

7 APPEAL PROCEDURES

Appeal against the decision of the Registration Authority can be made as follows

7.1 Appeal by a Sponsoring Authority can be made if it disagrees with the Registration Authority on whether the application meets the requirements of clause 6.

7.2 If at least three Member Bodies of the CEN/CENELEC group concerned with cultural elements object to a forthcoming publication of a registration by the Registration Authority, but solely on the ground that the requirements in clause 6 is not met.

7.3 Appeals shall be filed with the Registration Authority by registered mail

- either within 30 days of reception of the refusal of the Registration Authority

- or before the end of the circulation period.

7.4 Appeals shall be submitted by the Registration Authority within 30 days after reception in the case of 7.1 or at the end of the circulation period in the case of 7.2 to the members of the CEN/CENELEC group concerned with cultural elements, to decide according to CEN/CENELEC voting procedures, allowing both ballotting and voting meeting procedures.