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ISO/IEC JTC 1/SGFS  
Title: ISO/IEC JTC 1 Special Group on Functional  
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Secretariat: NNI (Netherlands)

Title : Additional U.S. Comments on ISO/IEC JTC1/SGFS N383,  
Request for SGFS Member Comment on Standardization of  
Profile Test Specifications

Source : U.S.A.

Status : U.S. National Body Comments

Note :

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**Reference:** ISO/IEC JTC1/SGFS N 383, Request for SGFS Member Comment on Standardization of Profile Test Specifications

**Subject:** Additional U.S. Comments on ISO/IEC JTC1/SGFS N 383, Request for SGFS Member Comment on Standardization of Profile Test Specifications

Three points must be made with regard to SGFS N383:

1. Item 3 of "1" states that the same method of balloting profile tests will be used as for balloting ISPs. This is currently a review period followed by a single, 4-month ballot. The US feels that this is sufficient only if profile test specifications are based on existing Abstract Test Suites (ATS). Lacking an ATS, the US feels that the current timeframe is insufficient. Test cases for conformance testing can be expected to number in the hundreds (at least) for a protocol and/or corresponding profile. These test cases are highly detailed.
2. Item 3 of "1" points out using the same procedure for profile testing documents as for profile documents. The US would like to emphasize that this means the source of any contributions on profiles must follow the same criteria as those for profile (pDISP) contributions.
3. Item 2 of "2" discusses the need to harmonize tests for profiles. This is absolutely critical. Harmonization of tests, in order to facilitate recognition of the results of conformance testing, was the primary motivation for the years of effort that have gone into ISO 9646. The US cannot accept test suites, for profiles nor for base standards, that do not have consensus support of the international parties involved in standardization.