BUSINESS PLAN for ISO/IEC JTC 1
The International Technical Committee for Information Technology Standards

Period Covered: November 2001 - October 2002

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1. MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

1.1   Statement of Scope

International standardization in the field of Information Technology

Note: Information Technology includes the specification, design and development of systems and tools dealing with the capture, representation, processing, security, transfer, interchange, presentation, management, organization, storage and retrieval of information.

1.2   Project Report

See individual Subcommittee reports

1.3   Cooperation and Competition

JTC 1 makes a concerted effort to work with ISO/IEC TCs and other management level groups (e.g., ISO/IEC/UNECE MoU Management Group) as well as industry consortia and forums.

At the technical level, there are several mechanisms that are available and have been used to encourage cooperative work. These include Category "C" liaison, collaborative agreements, memorandums of understanding, the fast track process and the PAS process.

While industry consortia and forums may be viewed as competitors for new work, JTC 1 is cooperating with several of these organizations through the PAS process to bring their work into the formal standardization process. Currently approved PAS Submitters are: Object Management Group (OMG), EUROPAY International, Systems Security Engineering Capability Maturity Model (SSE-CMM) Project, International Function Point Users Group (IFPUG), United Kingdom Software Metrics Association (UKSMA), Nederlandse Software Metrieken Associatie (NESMA) and the J Consortium.

The Distributed Management Task Force (DMTF) has indicated its intent to renew its PAS submitter status.

Working with OMG and former PAS Submitters X-Open and DAVIC, JTC 1 has successfully transposed specifications submitted by those organizations to International Standards status. Collaborative agreements are also being utilized for joint work with forums and consortia such as the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Web 3D Consortium, the World Wide Web (W3C) consortium and the Source for Environmental Data Representation and Interchange (SEDRIS).

2. PERIOD REVIEW

JTC 1 had a successful plenary period in terms of producing standards and improving its operations. However, JTC 1 needs to continue to focus on its strategic direction and mechanisms for making the industry and user communities aware of its products and accomplishments.

2.1 Market Requirements

From a JTC 1 perspective, the market requirements can only be stated in a generic fashion. The SC business plans should supplement and support these while providing technology specifics. Market trends indicate a requirement for technology standards that can be produced rapidly, with a business-like approach and widely disseminated. As "hot" technologies develop, JTC 1 must be able to accommodate these and produce the international standards. Major standards bodies are addressing the standardization needs for a seamless, secure global information infrastructure. JTC 1 (its SC's) must be able to analyze these requirements and determine what new projects must be initiated to ensure that these needs are fulfilled. The real determinant of success and market relevance is the use of JTC 1 standards in products and services.

2.2 Achievements

During the November 2000 through October 2001 Plenary period the following major accomplishments were achieved:

2.2.1 **JTC 1 published 122 International Standards** (including Amendments, International Standardized Profiles and Technical Reports) in areas such as: audio/picture/multimedia coding, coding, cultural and linguistic adaptability and user interfaces, database access, data capture, data communications, data management, document description languages, home electronic systems, identification cards, office equipment, peripheral interfaces, private networks,

programming languages, security, software engineering and storage media.

A listing of the published standards is available at the JTC 1 web site (www.jtc1.org).

2.2.2 **Over the past several years, the PAS process has become a useful tool in JTC 1's "tool box" of standards development methods**. One EUROPAY and one multi-part DAVIC specification were successfully transposed to International Standards; specifications from OMG, SSE-CMM and X-Open have been approved, and specifications from IFPUG, UKSMA, the J Consortium were submitted for balloting.

The approval status of several PAS submitters changed during this period with some organizations dropping their status and other organizations applying to become PAS submitters.

2.2.3 **JTC 1 approved a Workshop Mode of Operation**, for the production of International Workshop Agreements (IWA) developed outside of JTC 1. JTC 1's process is an adaptation of the ISO rules for IWAs and is similar to the IEC procedures for Industrial Technical Agreements. JTC 1 has already received indications of interest in using this new process in the less than two months since it has been approved.

2.2.4 **JTC 1 is participating in the JTC 1 Market Trial Project Team**. This activity was initiated by the ISO Council in response to JTC 1's development of a Business Plan on the electronic availability of standards to demonstrate how to bring an agreeable amount of revenue given JTC 1's desire for free or inexpensive standards availability. This project team is expected to continue through this plenary period.

2.2.5 JTC 1's strategy for implementing **the use of information technology tools (a multi-year project) has reached a level of maturity and stability** with all documents being distributed electronically, electronic web-based voting on JTC 1 ballots, and web sites for all JTC 1 subcommittees.

2.2.6 JTC 1 published a number of articles regarding its work as part of the **Marketing and Public Relations effort**. Eleven articles on JTC 1's work were published in the ISO Bulletin and a number of press releases were issued from the JTC 1 and SC web sites.

2.2.7 JTC 1 gave extensive guidance on cultural and linguistic adaptability and user interfaces by increasing its coordination efforts to better satisfy the user's requirements and growing market needs in this field.

2.3 Resources

While resource availability and commitment continue to be of concern, many JTC 1 projects are well staffed with resources readily available for development work. Many projects with a questionable level of resources have been eliminated from the program of work.

3. FOCUS FOR THIS PLANNING PERIOD

For the November 2001 - October 2002 Plenary period, the major focus will be on introducing market-relevant projects and meeting delivery dates for standards in progress (as identified in Subcommittee reports).

JTC 1 notes with great interest the ISO and IEC councils' decision to initiate a top-level dialogue with ICT industry leaders to examine the future of ICT standardization. JTC 1 looks forward to being a part of this dialogue, and will continue its strategic planning activity in support of this examination.

3.1 Deliverables

- International Standards and other deliverables produced in a timely manner using JTC 1's various development methods

- Implementation of approved recommendations regarding JTC 1's strategic direction and operational methods

- Participation and progress in the ISO/IEC Market Trial of JTC 1 Standards Availability

- Implementation of Marketing and Public Relations mechanisms to better engage and inform the industry and user community of JTC 1's products and accomplishments

- Identification and implementation of additional information technology tools to improve JTC 1's electronic operations.

3.2 Strategies

Other standards bodies, consortia and forums are competing for the development of Information Technology standards. JTC 1 must effectively produce standards within its scope, attract new work, cooperate with its partnering organizations and collaborate with other organizations, as

appropriate, to produce standards to meet the needs of industry, users and consumers.

3.2.1 Risks

If development times within JTC 1 are perceived as too long, potential participants in JTC 1 processes will take their needs to other organizations in an attempt to develop standards in a more timely manner.

3.2.2 Opportunities

In a high technology field, there always exist many new opportunities. JTC 1 must be alert to new technologies ripe for standardization and find the right mechanisms for bringing them into JTC 1, e.g., initiatives performed within the SC and the establishment of new SCs as appropriate.

One opportunity JTC 1 expects to pursue aggressively in this upcoming Plenary period is standardization in the field of Biometrics, particularly in the areas of interchange of Finger Imaging, Facial Recognition, and Iris Scan data. This will facilitate incorporation of biometric data into applications currently under development in JTC 1, such as machine readable travel documents and drivers licenses.

3.3 Work Program Priorities

JTC 1 will focus its resources on market-relevant projects while work programs are evaluated regularly by Subcommittees and action taken to revise and reprioritize the program as the market evolves.