

To: Don Nelson and WG11  
From: Madeleine R Sparks

ISO/TC97 (SC22/WG11)

N58

Comments on "Changes to ISO/TC97/SC22 N261 Guidelines for Language Bindings As of 7 May 1987" ISO/TC97/SC22/WG11 N52

- 1 Update all references since many drafts have been progressed.
- 2 Change 6 b): Perhaps changing the definition of IDENTIFIER to "Name of an application program object that uses a system facility" will make it clearer,
- 3 Yes, I think we need to add PHIGS to the list of definitions, and I propose:  
"PHIGS: Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System (ISO DP ) - a functional specification of the 3-D graphics programming system facility,"
- 4 12 b): where is it?
- 5 13, first paragraph: change "opend" to "opened"  
13, second paragraph: change to read "The advantage is that pre-existing constructs are used and no extra work of binding needs to be done. If that facility is already present in the language, then making use of that facility avoids unnecessary perturbations to the language."
- 6 17: change " for binding with the various languages" to "for binding to the various languages",
- 7 18: second line of new paragraph, change "standards" to "language standards".  
If this paragraph says what I think it says, it is suggesting that guidelines for bindings be put in each language standard. I can agree with this, I guess, but am not so sure about the suggested examples.
- 8 28: what do you mean by ?naive? I am not at all sure that I agree with this new bullet, but can live with taking out the word "naive".
- 9 Throughout, I like the words "As an example" better than "For example"
- 10 30: Without having heard the discussion, I feel that you must remove the parenthetical expression about the generic binding. In fact, in rereading this guideline, I realize that we in graphics have not followed the b), since our only rule has turned out to be that we don't progress the binding faster than the language. For example, the GKS C binding is only a month or two behind the ISO C language which is currently only at DP stage. Perhaps b) should really say "International work has been approved and begun on the language definition", My problem with the Generic Binding mention is that it assumes such a binding exists, when in fact it probably doesn't.
- 11 32: change "getter" to "better", change "by each subgroup developing a binding" to "separately for each binding", change "bug" to "but"
- 12 44: Maybe I missed it, but have you actually ever defined

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what an "alien" syntax is? I am not sure everyone who reads this document will know. I suggest that at a minimum some discription needs to be added after this guideline, and perhaps ALIEN SYNTAX should be added to the definitions?