The Process for Creating the ISO Ada Standard Document

This N-document, N612, describes the process for the production of the ISO Ada Standard, along with pertinent facts regarding the copyright.

For each update to the standard, the process begins with a “non-ISO source document” that is eventually submitted to ISO for publication.

The copyright for the non-ISO source document is currently owned by AXE Consultants, i.e., Randall Brukardt. It was originally prepared under a contract initiated at the direction of the U.S. Department of Defense.

AXE Consultants creates the non-ISO source document from its previous version using input from experts and the community at large. The new non-ISO source document is always based on the earlier version of itself, rather than on any preexisting ISO standard or on any WG 9 N-documents.

The owner informally asks individual experts (particularly from WG 9) to review the source document for comments. After dealing with these comments, a final version is produced that carries the copyright of AXE Consultants.

This non-ISO source document is then provided by the owner, as a member of PL 22 in the US TAG, to the WG 9 Convener, who initiates a formal WG ballot to approve sending the document to SC 22 for balloting. Upon approval, the WG 9 Convener provides the source document to the SC 22 Committee Manager, thus serving as the formal “contribution.”

The WG 9 Convener then issues a request to SC 22 that it add the new revision to the WG 9 items of work, with the source document serving as the Draft International Standard.

Additional non-ISO finished documents are also produced by the owner based on the non-ISO source document. These additional documents are directly related but are not the source document provided to ISO for publication. They include, for example, additional text and commentary about the language design choices, implementation concerns, and so on. These documents also carry the AXE copyright.

Included with the contributed document is a cover letter explaining that the document carries the AXE copyright in order to clarify the unfettered right of AXE Consultants to make the contribution, that AXE Consultants understands that the AXE copyright statement will be removed, and that an ISO copyright statement will be affixed to the document resulting from the ISO balloting process. Removing the AXE copyright does not transfer copyright ownership of the source document to ISO. In particular, the non-ISO source document and the other related documents remain freely available, consistent with ISO policies, and also with the condition originally required by the U.S. DoD for ISO standardization, and may, for example, be disseminated and published at will.