

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC34/WG2 N0293

Requirements for title and scope change of ISO/IEC 9541-4

1. History of ISO/IEC 9541-4

ISO/IEC 9541-4 was assigned to project of dual-number standard with ISO/IEC 14496-22 “Open Font Format” (ISO/IEC JTC1/SC34 N707). But ISO/IEC 14496-22 was already published on March of 2007 (ISO/IEC JTC1/SC29 N8293) in spite of the large works and efforts of SC34 Chair and Secretariat. ISO/IEC 14496-22 has no reference on ISO/IEC 9541 except of several defect references in Annex B.

2. Harmonization work from the side of ISO/IEC 9541

ISO/IEC 14496-22 is intended to be fully compatible with Microsoft OpenType version 1.4. A few amendments are proposed to harmonize existing ISO/IEC 9541-1, -2, -3 to ISO/IEC 14496-22. However ISO/IEC 14496-22 is not for font information interchange but for the description of font file structure. There are several gaps between ISO/IEC 9541 and ISO/IEC 14496-22 that cannot be covered by the scopes of existing parts of ISO/IEC 9541. Therefore, even if ISO/IEC 9541-4 were published as a dual numbered standard of ISO/IEC 14496-22, ISO/IEC 9541 will require its additional part to fill the gaps.

3. Requirements for title and scope change of ISO/IEC 9541-4

We have the project of ISO/IEC 9541-4 and the part has not actually been published. In order to satisfy the requirements for harmonization shown in 2., it is suggested that the title and scope of ISO/IEC 9541-4 should be changed for the harmonization of ISO/IEC 9541 to external fonts specifications.