Foreword

1 This document was prepared so that ISO WG21 and ANSI† X3J16 could vote to approve it as their Working Paper at their joint meeting in March, 1994 in San Diego, California, USA. It is the first such Working Paper that seriously attempts to present its contents in a form guided by *ISO Directives, Part 3—Drafting and presentation of International Standards* (ISBN 92−67−01055−7).

2 The C++ programming language as described in this Working Paper is based on the language as described in Chapter R (Reference Manual) of Stroustrup: *The C++ Programming Language* (second edition, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1991, ISBN 0−201−53992−6). That, in turn, is based on the C programming language as described in Appendix A of Kernighan and Ritchie: *The C Programming Language* (Prentice-Hall, 1978, ISBN 0−13−110163−3).

3 The C language changed substantially after *The C Programming Language* was published. Those changes are reflected in ISO/IEC 9899:1990, *C Standard* which, together with Chapter R of *The C++ Programming Language*, serve as the two base documents for this Working Paper.

4 The joint WG21 and X3J16 committee most recently approved a Working Paper in November, 1993, at their meeting in San Jose, California. A vertical bar in the right margin shows text that is new or changed from the previous version; an asterisk there shows where text was deleted. These ''change bars'' were mechnically prepared in a way that is sometimes too conservative: it is possible that text is shown as changed that did not actually change. However, the method of preparation is intended to ensure that a change bar does indeed indicate every change.

5 Most clause and subclause titles have text in square brackets at the end of their respective lines. The bracketed text is a *symbolic name* for that clause or subclause, with the idea that the symbolic name will remain constant even if the corresponding number changes in subsequent drafts. These symbolic names are there for convenience only and are not part of the text; they will not appear in the final version of the International Standard.

6 Throughout the text appear rectangular boxes, each with a label of the form **Box *n*** in its upper left corner, where ***n*** represents a positive integer. These boxes, and their contents, are there for convenience only and are not part of the text; they will not appear in the final version of the International Standard.

† American National Standards Institute