

Source: ISO/IEC JTC1/SGFS Plenary meeting, Tokyo
To: ISO/IEC JTC1
Subject: Response to JTC1 N3996-Relationship with Regional Workshops on Open Systems
Date: June 1996

The concern, raised in JTC1 N3996, was discussed during the RWS-CC meeting in April 1996 in Oxford; the liaison statement from the RWS-CC meeting to SGFS on this matter (SGFS N1346) is appended to this document.

During the subsequent discussion at the SGFS Plenary meeting it became apparent the RWSs continue to have an interest in co-operation with JTC1, either via SGFS (in the area of functional standardization) or in a more direct fashion on topics where that is appropriate (e.g., through the Authorised PAS submitter status of EWOS).

Through their membership and organisation, the RWSs are in direct contact with users, including many user groups that would not otherwise have access to the standardization process. RWSs are also in a position to understand what PASs should be transposed following the JTC1 process, and could usefully contribute to JTC1 and facilitate this process. In areas where the RWSs have developed competence and experience (e.g., GII, working in cross TC mode, working towards reference implementations and testing, organising user fora) the RWSs are offering their experience to JTC1.

It is however clear that the RWSs are in the process of reassessing their activities, much like JTC1 is doing in its re-engineering activities. In order to avoid misalignment of these processes, the RWSs have offered to give a presentation on their workprograms and plans for the future at the next JTC1 Plenary meeting in December 1996 in Paris.

Finally it was noted by the RWSs that in specific cases it might be more effective (and possibly more appropriate) if they can participate directly (rather than informally or as part of an SGFS delegation) in a number of JTC1 activities (such as the SWG-CA and the SWG-GII). SGFS has encouraged the RWSs to approach JTC1 directly with a view to an appropriate liaisonship.