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In August 1999, the Association for Font Information Interchange will dissolve. AFII has already relinquished its activity as registrar for ISO 10036 and recommended that the Unicode Consortium be approved as its successor. In January, the JTC1 plenary has approved this.

AFII has volunteered to prepare a camera-ready copy of the non-ideographic character chart and names tables for the second edition of ISO/IEC 10646. Substantial progress has been made on this task, as detailed in WG2 documents N1924, N1991 and N1998.

Until August of 1999, AFII will continue to prepare the camera ready copy. If there are no further changes affecting the character charts beyond the changes made at meeting WG2 meeting #36 AFII can complete the preparation of the camera ready copy.

It is not anticipated that further changes are needed at a later date after AFII has ceased operations. However, in the event that this does occur AFII has recommended that WG2 request the Unicode Consortium to formally agree to act as a backup. The Unicode Consortium uses the same technology, fonts and software to prepare its own draft of the Unicode Standard, Version 3.0. It is hoped that the Consortium would look favorable upon such a request.

AFII is happy to have been able to contribute to the development of ISO/IEC 10646 by providing AFII's font expertise in preparation of the first and second edition. AFII believes that the second edition of ISO 10646 is an important milestone.

On behalf of its members AFII wishes SC2 success for its further work.