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ISO/IEC JTC1 Special Group Meeting (Spatial Summit)

Title: Draft minutes of the first ISO/IEC JTC1 Special Group on “Planning Spatial Standardization and related Interoperability”, Menlo Park, California, USA, 2000-02-14/16

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Mr. Keith Brannon, ISO CS



Source : Convenor, ISO/IEC JTC1 Special Group on Spatial
Date : 2000-02-13/15

**Draft minutes of the first ISO/IEC JTC1 Special Group
on
“Planning Spatial Standardization and related Interoperability”
Menlo Park, California, USA, 2000-02-14/16**

1. Opening

The meeting was chaired by Martin Ford on behalf of JTC1.

Working papers will be posted on: <http://www.gistandards.org.uk/spatialsummit>

2. Welcome

Mr Ford opened the meeting at 10:30, and welcomed the participants. Participants introduced themselves.

3. Roll Call of Delegates

Martin R Ford	ISLINKUP JTC1 Convenor	martin@islinkup.com
C.Douglas O'Brien	IDON, SCC Canada, TC211 Secretary	dobrien@idon.com
Olaf Ostensen	ISO TC211, Chairman	olaf.ostensen@statkart.no
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Harry Niedzwiadek	OGC	harry1@erols.com
Cliff Kottman	OGC	cliff@opengis.org
Richard Puk	ISO/IEC JTC1 SC24 & US NB	puk@igraphics.com
Tim Bourne	ISO/IEC JTC1 SC32 WG2	standards@siam.co.uk
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Paul Foley	Quantum Reseach, DMSO	pfoley@dmsomil
David H Sonnen	OGC	dsonnen@ispatial.com
Michael Cosentino	Sun Microsystems	michael.cosentino@sun.com

(Attendance taken from circulated paper list.)

4. Report of Chairman

The chairman presented the purpose of the meeting by quoting from Resolution 29 from the plenary meeting of ISO/IEC JTC1 held in Korea, November 1999, "The purpose of the [Special JTC 1] meetings [On Planning Spatial Standardization & Related Interoperability] is to develop a mutually agreed plan between the interested parties setting out the responsibilities for work in spatial standardization and its related interoperability. The main aim is to achieve minimal overlap and optimum collaboration."

5. Adoption of Agenda

The draft agenda was is available in document JTC1 N 6056.

Item 7.5 "OMG", will be added to the agenda

6. Appointment of Drafting Committee

Dr. Charles Roswell agreed to manage the drafting committee.

7. Presentations

(What industry is doing and what efforts are being made to reflect industry activities into market-relevant standards.)

7.1. Market overview

A presentation was made by David Sonnen (See Annex A)

Key points:

- Move fast or die.
- Traditional standards are reactive instead of anticipatory.
- Standards can show leadership to reduce uncertainty.
- Industry does not know how to spend money on spatial systems.

- Price of data is dropping.
- Standards can provide stability
- Intellectual Property issues are different around the world

A second presentation was made by Harry Niedzwiadek.. (See Annex B)

Key points:

- The science is complex, no wonder we are slow.
- Standards-based Commercial Off The Shelf (SCOTS).

See also:

<http://WWW.OpenGIS.ORG/TheBigIdea/>

7.2. OGC and ISO/TC 211

Cliff Kottman presented on behalf of OGC. (See Annex C and D)

Key points:

- If we have a different solutions in different countries then we have failed.
- High level of cooperation with TC211 which provides the "abstract" standards
- Cooperation with other groups
- Already a high level of success (common geometry, metadata etc. with TC211)
- Goals for Special Group meeting:
 - G1 To share in the development of a co-ordinated strategic plan and related outreach or at least a strategic planning approach.
 - G2 The approach formulated in this meeting must strongly reflect a market-focused orientation.
 - G3 To facilitate and advance the collaboration opportunities
 - G4 To build on an already existing, rapidly expanding government-industry partnership focused in OGC.
 - G5 To provide a source of training and conformance testing services
 - G6 To ensure that geospatial standards are optimally positioned
 - G7 To provide an interoperable geospatial information and services infrastructure across the entire commercial market-place
 - G8 To remove barriers to an open and free market in spatial information and spatial services
 - G9 To expand the scope of "geospatial" to include "spatial."
 - G10 To enable interoperability through the provision of appropriate spatial name space registries, other dictionaries, libraries and clearing houses

A presentation was made by Olaf Ostensen on behalf of TC211. (See Annex E and F)

Key points:

- cooperation with OGC, DGIWG and the other liaison organizations was emphasized.

7.3. JTC 1 SC 32

A presentation was made by Tim Bourne and Paul Scarponcini on behalf of JTC1/SC32 (See Annex G and H)

Key points:

- The high level of compatibility between SQL/MM, OGC SFM, and TC211 Spatial was emphasized.
- It was indicated that this compatibility was due to a high level of cooperation.

7.4. SEDRIS and JTC 1 SC 24

A presentation was made by Steve Carson on behalf JTC1 SC24 followed by Jim Shiflett on behalf of SEDRIS. (See Annex I and J + material provided separately)

Key points:

- Image Interchange standards CGM, PNG, BIIF, VRML
- Geo VRML under development in W3C and Web 3D
- Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization (SISO) - Industry Standards Group (see <<http://www.sedris.org> />)
- Examples of computer graphics together with spatial data was shown.
- Description of BIIF (Basic Image Interchange Format) ISO 12087-5
- Description of VRML and MPEG-4 (Binary Format for Scenes) BIFS ISO 14496-1

Day 2 - - - - -

Steve Carson Continued his presentation on spatial modeling (see Annex K).

Farid Mamaghani gave a presentation on SEDRIS (see Annex L).

Key points:

- Overview of SEDRIS.
- Unambiguous representation and interchange of environmental data (both synthetic and real)

7.5. OMG (held over until Thursday Morning)

A presentation was made by Henry Lowe.. (See Annex M)

8. Discussion on presentations (Tues PM)

A discussion was held on the relative relationship between the various organizations and projects. The following general points were made/discussed:

- An MOU (or equivalent) under the auspice of ISO to work toward spatial compatibility:
 - A website to post or link all relevant information to make liaisons work
 - Something written that bounds the cooperation space
 - A community architecture for spatial
 - A summary of intentions
 - A clear statement to the marketplace on which organizations are cooperating
 - The MOU should not be a controlling entity, but one that develops cooperation
 - Who is doing what and why?
- UK felt that there is a need to bind the National Bodies into any cooperation agreement among the international organizations to reduce the possibility that these will be divisive through lack of information;

- US felt that an MOU should not interfere with the current processes but complement them;
- OGC felt that an MOU is a set of understandings that aid communication;
- Initial reaction from ISO/TC 211 that an MoU would not be helpful;
- Must be discussed in respective groups;
- Cannot identify the interfaces between the organizations at this time;
- Can the problem be broken down to reduce the load of documents that would need to be reviewed?
- What are the incentives to come together? There needs to be a mutual value;
- SISO, representing the modeling and simulation community, has a real pressing need to address these issues soon;
- Making finished documents available to one another is not going to foster much cooperation;
- A need to make liaisons work better was recognized;

- Potential areas of technical cooperation
 - Terminology
 - Catalogues
 - Spatial reference model
 - Geometry modeling
 - Spatial schema (Geometry Topology)
 - Temporal (Spatio temporal and higher dimensions)
 - Note: there is only one mathematics
 - Rendering (Portrayal)
 - Metadata (format and content)
 - Imaging
 - Environment beyond terrain

Ad Hoc	TC 211	SC 24	SC 32	OGC
Terminology	Terminology		Terminology	The meaning of words
Catalogues	Feature Catalogue Methodology		Information Schema	
Geometry	Spatial Schema		Spatial UDTs	
Location	Spatial Schema		Spatial UDTs	
Topology	Spatial Schema		(future)	
Rendering	Portrayal		n/a	
Imaging	I&GD Comp.		(future)	
Temporal	Temporal Schema		(future)	
Reference System	Spatial Referencing by Coordinates; Identifiers		SpatialRefSys based on TC211 (future Linear)	

- Potential areas of business cooperation:

- Testbeds
- Pilot Projects
- Commercialization
- Market Development
- Embedding into e-commerce
- Security and Authentication
- Portals
- Support to e-government
- Conformance and testing

- Guidelines provided to the drafting committee:

- define an informal position paper on who was at the meeting, what they do and the parameters for interaction and cooperation on business, operations (projects), technology and the industries that they are trying to serve;
- the outcome could be a charter to be commented on by all the JTC1 national bodies and invited bodies; this paper would be a common model for industry cooperation.
- it is necessary for there to be the appropriate level of education for the various bodies;
- Propose a way ahead;
- Keep it conceptual.

The drafting committee was established as follows:

- Charles Roswell - DGIWG
- Olaf Ostensen - TC 211
- Richard Puk - SC 24
- Paul Scarponcini - SC 32
- Paul Foley - SEDRIS
- Cliff Kottman - OGC
- Clyde Camp - SC 31
- Paul Nagele - SISO

The results of the drafting committee was presented by Charles Roswell. (Position Paper distributed separately)

9. Representation and interchange of spatial and environmental data

--- Discussed under section 8 ---

10. The marketplace: goals, getting to interoperability through standards

--- Customer needs, and the vision for the "post standard" era -- discussed during the presentations ---

11. Approval of recommendations

The report of the editing committee on the Position Paper was discussed. The description of the status from some of the participants was not available. This input will be added by the convener in consultation with selected experts from these organizations, and the completed position paper will be distributed to all participants (through the web site) and the other organizations who were invited but were unable to attend, within one week. The participants would have four weeks to comment on the meeting deliverables.

A second meeting was identified as being needed. The timing is to be arranged by the convener during April to May.

12. Close of Meeting

The convenor thanked the host, Sun Microsystems for their hospitality and closed the meeting at 2:50.