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Rationale for withdrawal of CSMF project

Following the ballot on FDIS 14481, a number of items were noted by UK identifying changes required in the text. One major item specified only some guidelines for major revisions required to the text, and at least six other items had only incomplete edits specified. The necessary editing would be no trivial task, and would require substantial technical input.

Only when the result of the FCD ballot was published (ISO/IEC JTC1/SC32 N0196 dated 1998-12-08) was it apparent that no technical work from any other member body had been submitted.

Only when the result of the Project Split ballot was published (SC32 N0193 dated 1998-11-11), though it was "approved" according to the rules, was it apparent that only three member bodies were committed to contribute, and this did not include the US who had supplied the editors for Part 1 and a large proportion of the technical input.

For these reasons WG2 concludes that there is not sufficient commitment of national body technical resources to make useful further progress. While it is disappointing after the years of effort not to be able to complete this project, WG2 considers it better to recognize this situation than to try to continue without national body commitment to this work.