| Title:                            | Information technology Programming languages, their environments and system software interfaces JEFF file format |                 |             |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Document:                         | ISO/IEC DIS 20970  | Committee:      | JTC 1/SC 22 |  |  |  |
| Start date (CET):                 | 2001-05-09   | End date (CET): | 2001-11-09  |  |  |  |
| ISO/CS ballot closing date (CET): | 2001-11-19   | Voting phase:   | Enquiry     |  |  |  |
| Status:                           | CLOSED   | Version:        | 1           |  |  |  |
| Vienna Agreement:                 | FT   |                 |             |  |  |  |

#### RESULT OF VOTING

P-Members voting: 14 in favour out of 16 = 87.5 % (requirement >= 66.66%)

(P-members having abstained are not counted in the vote)

Member bodies voting: 2 negative votes out of 19 = 10.53 % (requirement <= 25%)

#### **APPROVED**

|     | <u>Country</u>         | Member | <u>Participation</u> | Voted       | Comments file          |
|-----|------------------------|--------|----------------------|-------------|------------------------|
|     | Australia              | SAI    | P                    | Abstention  |                        |
|     | Belgium                | IBN    | P                    | Abstention  |                        |
|     | Brazil                 | ABNT   | P                    | Abstention  |                        |
|     | Canada                 | SCC    | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | China                  | CSBTS  | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Czech Republic         | CSNI   | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Denmark                | DS     | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Egypt                  | EOS    | O                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Finland                | SFS    | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | France                 | AFNOR  | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Germany                | DIN    | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Ireland                | NSAI   | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Italy                  | UNI    | P                    |             |                        |
| _ Z | Japan                  | JISC   | P                    | Disapproval | ISO/IEC_DIS_20970_JISC |
|     | Korea, Dem. P. Rep. of | CSK    | P                    |             |                        |
|     | Korea, Republic of     | KATS   | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Netherlands            | NEN    | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | New Zealand            | SNZ    | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Norway                 | NSF    | P                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Portugal               | IPQ    | P                    | Abstention  |                        |
|     | Russian Federation     | GOST R | О                    | Approval    |                        |
|     | Slovenia               | SIST   | P                    |             |                        |
|     | South Africa           | SABS   | P                    | Abstention  |                        |
|     | Sweden                 | SIS    | P                    | Disapproval | ISO/IEC_DIS_20970_SIS  |

1 of 2

| Switzerland    | SNV  | P | Abstention             |                        |
|----------------|------|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Ukraine        | DSTU | O | Approval               |                        |
| United Kingdom | BSI  | P | Approval               |                        |
| USA            | ANSI | S | Approval with comments | ISO/IEC DIS 20970 ANSI |

2 of 2

Date: 2001-11-06 Document: **ISO/ IEC DIS 20970** 

| Member<br>body | Clause/<br>subclause  | Paragraph/<br>Figure/Table | Type of comment (ge / te / ed) 1 | Comment  | Proposed change  | Observations of the secretariat on each comment submitted |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Japan (JISC)   | All document  |                            | Ge                               | Clarify the relationship with Sun Microsystems Inc.'s Java specifications. In the overview, both the Java VM and Java Language Specifications are referred as "to fully understand this specification, the reading is recommended."  |  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | All document  |                            | Ge                               | Describe the contents clearly and understandable. Define terms precisely.  |  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | All document  |                            | Ge                               | Provide the precise information as an International Standards.   |  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | All document  |                            | Ge                               | Follow the ISO/ICE JTC 1 standard format so that the necessary information will be presented precisely.  |  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | All document  |                            | Ge                               | The meta-syntax of structure notation is poorly specified and is hardly understandable. Though it is mentioned as "C-like," there are apparent differences with the C structure. For example, unlike C, item offsets within the structure are not constant (see 3.2.3). Offsets depend on the position of each structure instance. |  |   |
|                |   |                            |                                  | Some items are "optional" in some structures. This means that these items are, at times, completely removed from the structure. So far we looked through the specification, nothing is apparent from the structure notations, whether the item is optional or not.   |  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p2-2.2 Definition of <vmconstutf 8=""> of <language types=""></language></vmconstutf> |                            | Те                               | This has different syntax from the rest of the specification. So far we guess see comments on "p8-3.2.1 <notations>" array size had better be explicitly specified.</notations>  | "TU1 nStringValue[];" ==> "TU1 nStringValue[nStringLength];" |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p4-2.3.2  |                            | Те                               | Using "optional" in these explanations   |  |   |

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ge = general - te = technical - ed = editorial FORM (ISO) 2000-07-01

| Member<br>body | Clause/<br>subclause | Paragraph/<br>Figure/Table | Type of comment<br>(general/ | Comment | Proposed change | Observations of the secretariat on each comment submitted |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------|---|
|                |                      |                            | technical/editorial)         |         |                 |   |

| Member<br>body | Clause/<br>subclause  | Paragraph/<br>Figure/Table | Type of comment (ge / te / ed) 1 | Comment  | Proposed change | Observations of the secretariat on each comment submitted |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------|---|
|                | <dimension value=""> of <type descriptor=""> p5- 2.3.2(cont'd) <class index=""> of <type descriptor=""></type></class></type></dimension>                 |                            |                                  | makes following statements, which too have problems, difficult to understand or even to guess their meanings: p18-3.3.2.6(cont'd) <ntypedimension> p27-3.3.5.2 <ndatatypedimension> of <descriptor> p32-4.2.6 <translated structure=""> of <the multinewarray="" opcode="">     In what sense are these items are "optional"?     It seems that "optional"s are not used in the same meaning as the "Attribute Section is optional". Describe the conditions of these items' existence/absence using the clarified</the></translated></descriptor></ndatatypedimension></ntypedimension> |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p7-3.1.3 <internal and="" classes="" external="">, and p7-3.1.4 <fields and="" methods=""></fields></internal>  |                            | Те                               | structure notations.  The name sorting order specified as "following the crescent lexicographic order" is ambiguous.  Even if it is assumed that no correlation table is required, above statement can still be interpreted as:  a) by 16-bit Java char code comparison,  b) by 32-bit Unicode character code comparison, or  c) by UTF8 byte code comparison.  Which is correct?  In the latest case, it is also required that the UTF8 strings stored in the file structure are canonicalized.   |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p7-3.1.4<br><fields and<br="">Methods&gt;</fields>  |                            | Те                               | "All the symbolic names representing the internal class fields are stored at the beginning of the table." Above statement conflicts with the deduction that follows the statement.   |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p9-3.2.3<br><alignment< td=""><td></td><td>Те</td><td><vmpindex> is defined in 2.3, but not in this table.</vmpindex></td><td></td><td></td></alignment<> |                            | Те                               | <vmpindex> is defined in 2.3, but not in this table.</vmpindex>  |                 |   |

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|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|---------|-----------------|---|
|                |                      | -                          |  |         |                 |   |

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|----------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------|---|
|                | and Padding>   |                            |                                  |  |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p9-3.3 table of<br><the file<br="">Structure&gt;</the>   |                            | Те                               | It is not clear what are optional, and how optional in "Optional Attribute Section" and "list of optional attributes."   |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p13-3.3.2.1<br><aaccessflag<br>&gt; of <class<br>Header&gt;</class<br></aaccessflag<br>  |                            | Те                               | These are said to be "values." They should be "bit-vector contents."   |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p17-3.3.2.5<br><ofcode> of<br/><internal<br>Method Table&gt;</internal<br></ofcode>  |                            | Те                               | This implies each <ofcode> must have different <nnativereference> offsets AND EVERY <nnativereference> MUST HAVE UNIQUE VALUES.  Is the latter restriction really necessary? Isn't it too much restrictive?</nnativereference></nnativereference></ofcode> |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p18-<br>3.3.2.6(cont'd)<br><tfieldtype></tfieldtype>   |                            | Те                               | " retrieve in the operand stack the reference of the object instance (for an instance field)."  This just does not make sense.   |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p19-3.3.2.8<br><ncmaxlocals<br>&gt; of <bytecode<br>Block<br/>Structure&gt;</bytecode<br></ncmaxlocals<br>   |                            | Те                               | Are "cell" and "word" the same or not?   |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p19-3.3.2.8<br><bytecode> of<br/><bytecode<br>Block<br/>Structure&gt;</bytecode<br></bytecode>   |                            | Те                               | Are "address" and "offset" the same or not?  |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p27-3.3.6 <file<br>Signature&gt; (or<br/><digital<br>Signature&gt;?)</digital<br></file<br>  |                            | Те                               | "The VMFileSignature structure is not defined." Does this mean that, in this version of specification, <file sinature=""> must not be used and the offset value must be zero?  Or, does this mean that suppliers may define their own structure?</file>    |                 |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p32-<br>4.2.6(cont'd)<br><ndimensions< td=""><td></td><td>Те</td><td>Explain should be put precisely. Is this item necessary?? There is <narraydimensions> item that also</narraydimensions></td><td></td><td></td></ndimensions<> |                            | Те                               | Explain should be put precisely. Is this item necessary?? There is <narraydimensions> item that also</narraydimensions>  |                 |   |

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|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|---------|-----------------|---|
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|---------|-----------------|---|

| Member<br>body | Clause/<br>subclause   | Paragraph/<br>Figure/Table | Type of comment (ge / te / ed) 1 | Comment  | Proposed change                 | Observations of the secretariat<br>on each comment submitted |
|----------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
|                | > of<br><translated<br>structure&gt; of<br/><the<br>multianewarra<br/>y Opcode&gt;</the<br></translated<br>                          |                            |                                  | specifies array dimension.   |                                 |  |
| Japan (JISC)   | p34-4.2.10<br><nlndex> of<br/><the wide<br=""><opcode><br/>Opcodes&gt;</opcode></the></nlndex>                                       |                            | Те                               | None explained. Or, should we refer the description of original instruction? |                                 |  |
| Japan (JISC)   | p35-4.2.11<br><nlndex> and<br/><nconstant><br/>of <the wide<br="">iinc Opcode&gt;</the></nconstant></nlndex>                         |                            | Те                               | None explained. Or, should we refer the description of original instruction? |                                 |  |
| Japan (JISC)   | p3-2.3.1<br><meaning> of<br/><acc_publi<br>C&gt; of <class><br/>of <access<br>Flags&gt;</access<br></class></acc_publi<br></meaning> |                            | Ed                               | " from outside its package."   | " from outside of its package." |  |
|                | <meaning> of<br/><acc_publi<br>C&gt; of <field><br/>of <access<br>Flags&gt;</access<br></field></acc_publi<br></meaning>             |                            |                                  |  |                                 |  |
|                | <meaning> of<br/><acc_publi<br>C&gt; of<br/><method> of<br/><access<br>Flags&gt;</access<br></method></acc_publi<br></meaning>       |                            |                                  |  |                                 |  |
| Japan (JISC)   | p5-2.3.2<br><class index=""><br/>of <type<br>Descriptor&gt;</type<br></class>  |                            | Ed                               | " array of class,"   | " array of a class,"            |  |
| Japan (JISC)   | p5-2.3.3   |                            | Ed                               | " Depending of where"  | " Depending on where"           |  |

| Member<br>body | Clause/<br>subclause | Paragraph/<br>Figure/Table | Type of comment<br>(general/<br>technical/editorial) | Comment | Proposed change | Observations of the secretariat on each comment submitted |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|---------|-----------------|---|
|                |                      |                            |  |         |                 |   |
|                |                      |                            |  |         |                 |   |

| Member<br>body | Clause/<br>subclause  | Paragraph/<br>Figure/Table | Type of comment (ge / te / ed) 1 | Comment  | Proposed change   | Observations of the secretariat on each comment submitted |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
|                | <offsets> 2nd paragraph</offsets>   |                            |                                  |  |   |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p8-3.1.5<br>(cont'd) 3rd<br>bullet  |                            | Ed                               | " Depends of the"  | " Depends on the"   |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p.11-<br>3.1.1(cont'd)<br><nbyteorder></nbyteorder>   |                            | Ed                               | "the term "integer value" designs" " two-, four- and height-bytes" | "the term "integer value" defines" " two-, four- and eight-bytes" |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p17-<br>3.3.2.5(cont'd)<br><nmethodcou<br>nt&gt; of <internal<br>Method Table&gt;</internal<br></nmethodcou<br>         |                            | Ed                               | " number of method"  | " number of methods"  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p19-3.3.2.8<br><ncmaxstack><br/>of <bytecode<br>Block<br/>Structure&gt;</bytecode<br></ncmaxstack>                      |                            | Ed                               | " during execution of"   | " during the execution of"  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p20-3.3.2.9<br><ncatchcount<br>&gt; of <caught<br>Exception<br/>Table&gt;</caught<br></ncatchcount<br>                  |                            | Ed                               | " number of element"   | " number of elements"   |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p20-3.3.2.10<br><constant<br>Data Section&gt;</constant<br>   |                            | Ed                               | " They are always referred through an offset"                      | " They are always referred through offsets"                       |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p23-<br>3.3.3(cont'd)<br><dofclassattru<br>butes&gt; of<br/><attrubute<br>Section&gt;</attrubute<br></dofclassattru<br> |                            | Ed                               | " value iszero if"   | "value is zero if"  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p26-3.3.5.1<br><ndescriptorc<br>ount&gt; of<br/><constant<br>Data Pool<br/>Section&gt;</constant<br></ndescriptorc<br>  |                            | Ed                               | " take in account the descriptors."                                | " take the descriptors into account."                             |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p27-3.3.5.3   |                            | Ed                               | " 0 for a method without argument."                                | " Zero for methods without  |   |

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|----------------|---|----------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Member<br>body | Clause/<br>subclause  | Paragraph/<br>Figure/Table | Type of comment (ge / te / ed) 1                     | Comment   | Proposed change   | Observations of the secretariat on each comment submitted |
|                | <nargcount><br/>of <method<br>Descriptor&gt;</method<br></nargcount>  |                            |  |   | arguments."   |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p28-4<br><bytecodes></bytecodes>  |                            | Ed   | " instruction without argument"                         | " instruction without arguments"  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p29-4.2.1<br><the<br>tableswitch<br/>Opcode&gt;</the<br>  |                            | Ed   | " converted in 16-bit signed value,"                    | " converted into 16-bit signed values,"                                     |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p29-4.2.2<br><the<br>lookupswitch<br/>Opcode&gt;</the<br>   |                            | Ed   | "TU4 nPairs" " singed 32-bit values: nDefault, nPairs," | "TS4 nPairs" " singed 32-bit value nDefault, unsigned 32-bit value nPairs," |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p31-<br>4.2.4(cont'd)<br><ofclassindex<br>&gt; of <opcodes<br>With Class<br/>Arguments&gt;</opcodes<br></ofclassindex<br> |                            | Ed   | " a class or an array of classes."                      | " a class or an array of a class."  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p32-<br>4.2.6(cont'd)<br><ofclassindex<br>&gt; of <the<br>mulitanewarra<br/>y Opcode&gt;</the<br></ofclassindex<br>       |                            | Ed   | " a class or an array of classes."                      | " a class or an array of a class."  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p36-4.2.14 <original instruction=""> of <the opcode="" sipush=""></the></original>  |                            | Ed   | "TU1 nByte1"  | "TS1 nByte1"  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p36-4.2.15<br><the<br>newconstarray<br/>Opcode&gt;</the<br>   |                            | Ed   | " depends of" "TU1 nByte1"                              | " depends on" "TS1 nByte1"  |   |
| Japan (JISC)   | p43-5   |                            | Ed   | "Restriction"   | "Restrictions"  |   |

Date: 2001-10-25 Document: **ISO/IEC 20970** 

#### Comments on "JEFF file format", accompanying a NEGATIVE vote.

If all the comments marked "MAJOR" below, are accepted and handled in an appropriate manner for the first edition (not delayed until a future edition) our vote may be changed to a yes vote.

| 1               | 2  | (3)   | 4                                       | 5   | (6)                       | (7)   |
|-----------------|--|---|---|---|---------------------------|---|
| MB <sup>1</sup> | Clause No./<br>Subclause No./<br>Annex/Figure/Table<br>(e.g. 3.1, Table 2) | Paragraph/<br>List item/<br>Note<br>(e.g. Note 2) | Type<br>of<br>com-<br>ment <sup>2</sup> | Comment (justification for change) by the MB  | Proposed change by the MB | Secretariat observations<br>on each comment submitted |
| SE              | 1. MAJOR<br>clause 2.2   |   | te                                      | JCHAR: Change "16-bit Unicode char" to "UTF-16 code unit"; change "Unicode max." to "0xFFFF". Note that the code point space in Unicode ranges from U+0000 to U+10FFFF, while the largest UTF-16 code unit is 0xFFFF. To represent characters in the supplementary planes (plane 01 to 10) in UTF-16, two UTF-16 code units are used per encoded supplementary character. |                           |   |
| SE              | 2A MAJOR<br>clause 2.2   |   | te                                      | The byte (octet, see below) order of a JEFF file must be fixed to so-called network octet order, i.e. bigendian. Having endianness depend on bits in a header makes JEFF directly <b>unsuitable</b> as a direct-execution format  |                           |   |
| SE              | 2B MAJOR<br>clause 2.2   |   | te                                      | Further, there is reference to a "global byte order", but no such byte order is defined. Instead there is byte order meddling per datatype (except for characters) in the JEFF specifications, using bits in a header that is not needed for a properly defined program file format.  |                           |   |
| SE              | 3 MAJOR<br>clause 2.2  |   | te                                      | Strings in Java are sequences of UTF-16 code units (called char in Java). They must be (logically) strings of UTF-16 code units also during runtime, so it seems needlessly cumbersome, and highly inefficient, to actually represent strings in UTF-8 during runtime. (UTF-8 is spelled so, NOT "Utf8".)   |                           |   |
| SE              | 4 MAJOR<br>clause 2.2  |   | te                                      | The UTF-8 format is defined by ISO/IEC 10646-1 (not yet fully up to date) and Unicode 3.1 (further, Unicode 3.2 is likely to make the irregular cases   |                           |   |

<sup>1</sup> **MB** = Member body (enter the ISO 3166 two-letter country code, e.g. CN for China)

<sup>\*\* =</sup> ISO/CS editing unit

NB Columns 1, 2, 4, 5 are compulsory.

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| 1               | 2  | (3)   | 4                                       | 5  | (6)                       | (7)  |
|-----------------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------|--|
| MB <sup>1</sup> | Clause No./<br>Subclause No./<br>Annex/Figure/Table<br>(e.g. 3.1, Table 2) | Paragraph/<br>List item/<br>Note<br>(e.g. Note 2) | Type<br>of<br>com-<br>ment <sup>2</sup> | Comment (justification for change) by the MB   | Proposed change by the MB | Secretariat observations on each comment submitted |
|                 |  |   |   | illegal). It's NOT defined by the Java Virtual Machine Specification.  |                           |  |
| SE              | 5 MAJOR<br>clause 3.1.1 and<br>3.1.2                                       |   | te                                      | The encoding for names is not given, which it should be. Is it UTF-16? Or (proper) UTF-8?                                      |                           |  |
| SE              | 6 clause 3.1.1   |   | te                                      | Change "Unicode 0x002F" to "U+002F, SOLIDUS".  |                           |  |
| SE              | 7 clause 3.1.2   |   | te                                      | Change "Unicode 0x002F" to "U+0020, SPACE".  |                           |  |
| SE              | 8 MAJOR  |   | ge                                      | use the term 'octet' instead of 'byte' since 'byte' is sometimes used in a looser sense.                                       |                           |  |
| SE              | 9 MAJOR<br>clause 3.2.2 and<br>3.3.1                                       |   | te                                      | always use so-called network octet order, i.e big-<br>endian. (That implies that that header fields in JEFF<br>is not needed.) |                           |  |
| SE              | 10 MAJOR<br>clause 3.3.1   |   | te                                      | the VM_USE_UNICODE bit shall always be set (i.e the bit is not needed in the file format).                                     |                           |  |
| SE              | 11 MAJOR   |   | ge                                      | replace "bytecode" with "octet" and replace "bytecodes" with "directly executable instructions".                               |                           |  |
| SE              | 12 MAJOR<br>clause 3.3.2.10  |   | te                                      | Utf8; see above  |                           |  |
| SE              | 13 MAJOR   |   | te                                      | byte order; see above  |                           |  |

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<sup>2</sup> **Type of comment:** ge = general te = technical

| ate: 2001-10-25 | Document: ISO/IEC 20970 |  |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--|
|-----------------|-------------------------|--|

#### Comments on "JEFF file format", accompanying a NEGATIVE vote.

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| 1               | 2  | (3)   | 4                                       | 5  | (6)                       | (7)  |
|-----------------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------|--|
| MB <sup>1</sup> | Clause No./<br>Subclause No./<br>Annex/Figure/Table<br>(e.g. 3.1, Table 2) | Paragraph/<br>List item/<br>Note<br>(e.g. Note 2) | Type<br>of<br>com-<br>ment <sup>2</sup> | Comment (justification for change) by the MB   | Proposed change by the MB | Secretariat observations on each comment submitted |
|                 | clause 3.3.3.1   |   |   |  |                           |  |
| SE              | 14 clause 3.3.4  |   | te                                      | Utf8; see above  |                           |  |
| SE              | 15 MAJOR<br>clause 5   |   | te                                      | "cannot exceed 64Kb"?? 64 Kelvin-bit? I guess you mean 64 KiB, kilo-binary octets ("kibibyte"). Similarly, Gb (gibabit?) should really be GiB (gigabinary octets, "gibibyte"). And expand "4 Giga" to the appropriate numeric expression.              |                           |  |
| SE              | 16 MAJOR   |   | ge                                      | self-containedness: opcodes are given, but they are not given any semantics, except by vague reference to the class file format (bibl. ref. [1]). This specification is thus NOT self-contained contrary to claims. These claims must thus be removed. |                           |  |
| SE              | 17 MAJOR   |   | te                                      | self-containedness: opcodes are given, but they are not given any semantics, except by vague reference to the class file format (bibl. ref. [1]). This specification is thus NOT self-contained contrary to claims. These claims must thus be removed. |                           |  |
| SE              | 18 MAJOR   |   | ge                                      | it is stated that the given format "can be read as grammar"; please give a properly formulated grammar in the conventional style then.   |                           |  |
| SE              | 19 MAJOR   |   | te                                      | Other missing normative specifications are (in a "Normative references" clause that is currently missing):  ISO/IEC 10646-1:2000 (defines UTF-8  |                           |  |

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NB Columns 1, 2, 4, 5 are compulsory.

<sup>\*\* =</sup> ISO/CS editing unit

<sup>2</sup> **Type of comment:** ge = general te = technical ed = editoria

Date: 2001-10-25 Document: **ISO/IEC 20970** 

#### Comments on "JEFF file format", accompanying a NEGATIVE vote.

If all the comments marked "MAJOR" below, are accepted and handled in an appropriate manner for the first edition (not delayed until a future edition) our vote may be changed to a yes vote.

| 1               | 2  | (3)   | 4                                       | 5   | (6)                       | (7)  |
|-----------------|--|---|---|---|---------------------------|--|
| MB <sup>1</sup> | Clause No./<br>Subclause No./<br>Annex/Figure/Table<br>(e.g. 3.1, Table 2) | Paragraph/<br>List item/<br>Note<br>(e.g. Note 2) | Type<br>of<br>com-<br>ment <sup>2</sup> | Comment (justification for change) by the MB  | Proposed change by the MB | Secretariat observations on each comment submitted |
|                 |  |   |   | and UTF-16), and its amendment 1 (2002), as well as future amendments, ISO/IEC 10646-2:2001, and its future amendments, The Unicode Standard, versions, 3.0, 3.1, and 3.2, and future versions (use the definitions of UTF-16 and UTF-8 from this reference, 3.1 in particular, since this maximises interoperability). |                           |  |
| SE              | 20 MINOR   |   | ge                                      | There are no "Scope" and "Terms and definitions" clauses. The "Overview" should be made into non-normative (and unnumbered) "Introduction" section.   |                           |  |

**NB** Columns 1, 2, 4, 5 are compulsory.

<sup>1</sup> **MB** = Member body (enter the ISO 3166 two-letter country code, e.g. CN for China)

<sup>2</sup> **Type of comment:** ge = general te = technical ed = editorial

# Summary of Comments on jeff\_spec\_1.0.doc

### Page: 1

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:13:26 PM

Type: Note

My comments are attached as Post-It notes such as this.

I'm coming at this not as someone working with or familiar with this subject matter, but as someone who spends a lot of time

reading and writing programming language standards.

Rex Jaeschke

Chair NCITS/CT22, US TAG to SC22, August 2001.

rex@RexJaeschke.com

## Page: 5

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:56:44 PM

Type: Note

I think Frank's name is misspelled.

## Page: 6

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 6:58:00 PM

Type: Note

I presume these bytes must be contiguous. If that is the case, you should say so.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 6:59:39 PM

Type: Note

I suggest replacing the final phrase ``the expression "null

value" is synonym of a value of zero."

with

"the expression "null

value" is a synonym for a value of zero of the appropriate type."

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:00:06 PM

Type: Note

Change `or' to `and'.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:01:05 PM

Type: Note

I presume these must be integers types. If that is correct, you should say so.

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:01:31 PM

Type: Note

Insert `and' before four-byte.

Sequence number: 6

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:02:36 PM

Type: Note

I would strike 'like int, short or char'. Why call these out? The table has them all.

Sequence number: 7

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:03:54 PM

Type: Note

I suggest you set all Java keywords in a constant-width font. That's is far easier on the eyes than making them bold roman.

Sequence number: 8

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:04:42 PM

Type: Note

This designates a US standard. For ISO standards you should make some mention of the corresponding IEC 559 standard.

Sequence number: 9

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:05:36 PM

Type: Note

The min and max values for long are simply not accurate or useful as is.

Sequence number: 10

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:06:02 PM

Type: Note

Why are there no values here?

Sequence number: 11

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:06:24 PM

Type: Note

Is this a secret?

Sequence number: 12

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:07:14 PM

Type: Note

Why do you need to call out the fp format? Would it be anything else than this?

Sequence number: 13

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:08:56 PM

Type: Note

I suggest you replace `The character strings are stored in the following structure:'

with

`Character strings are stored according to the following structure:'

## Page: 7

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:09:32 PM

Type: Note

`These' is misspelled.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:15:17 PM

Type: Note

It's not obvious that the three parenthetical notes in the Description column are useful. This table gives the executive summary; the details are available in the sections that follow.

It would be more useful if each description had a section number forward reference, so the reader can read more details about it.

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:13:55 PM

Type: Note

In the detail sections that follow this table VMNCELL is missing.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:14:29 PM

Type: Note

Change 'This type is conforming' to 'This type conforms'

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:16:44 PM

Type: Note

This meaning doesn't quite sound right.

#### Page: 8

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:18:23 PM

Type: Note

I can't find a definition for VMCINDEX.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:19:34 PM

Type: Note

I suggest you replace `built with one of the following values:' with

`whose low nibble contains one of the following values:'

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:19:58 PM

Type: Note

Replace `can be' with `are'.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:21:38 PM

Type: Note

Replace `YY is the type size in bytes. The size is: 1 << YY' with `YY is an encoded representation of the type size in bytes. The

actual type size is: 1<< YY'

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:22:35 PM

Type: Note

Replace `XX is just used to differentiate the types having the same size.' with `XX serves to differentiate types having the same

size.

Sequence number: 6

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:22:59 PM

Type: Note

Change `are also set' to `may be set'

Sequence number: 7

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:23:50 PM

Type: Note

replace `a n-dim...' with `an n-dim...' This appears in numerous places throughout the spec.

Sequence number: 8

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:25:26 PM

Type: Note

Replace `This value is

optional for a non-array type or for a mono-dimensional array.'

with

`This value is optional for non-array and mono-dimensional array types.'

Sequence number: 9

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:26:26 PM

Type: Note

Replace `is mandatory to

know the exact array type.' with `must be present.'

Sequence number: 10

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:27:09 PM

Type: Note

I presume the two occurances of `ex:' should be `e.g.,'

Sequence number: 11

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:27:42 PM

Type: Note

I suggest setting all Java language code fragments in a constant-width font.

Sequence number: 12

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:29:57 PM

Type: Note

Is a Dimension Value permitted for all array types, include one with a void return type? I ask because the final example in 2.3.2

over the page shows no Dimension Value.

## Page: 9

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:31:43 PM

Type: Note

Saying that 'the class index is useless.' is hardly standards language. I suspect it must NOT be present.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:31:56 PM

Type: Note

Are example normative or non-normative?

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:33:50 PM

Type: Note

In all the examples in which the dimension is optional, I don't understand how you can tell if it is present or not.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:34:30 PM

Type: Note

I don't understand this sentence.

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:35:18 PM

Type: Note

A forward reference here would be nice.

Sequence number: 6

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:35:46 PM

Type: Note

Why not list the 4 index types here like you did for 2.3.3 and offsets?

#### Page: 10

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:36:46 PM

Type: Note

Either `name' should be plural or the whole intro phrase should be singular.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:37:33 PM

Type: Note

Unless you are talking about a specifical set of classes, packages, fiilds, and methods, I'd strike the 4 definite articles in this list.

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:38:11 PM

Type: Note

This slanted text makes it hard to distinguish between a slash and the letter I.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:38:41 PM

Type: Note

Different kind of quotes used here.

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:39:24 PM

Type: Note

I suspect this bad line break may be misleading. I swhite space permitted between these two parts, and if so, how much?

### Page: 11

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:40:00 PM

Type: Note

It's pretty common in technical writing to set the first use of terms in italics rather than in quotes.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:41:18 PM

Type: Note

Replace `This order defines an index value for each

package (a VMPINDEX value).'

with

`This order defines an index value (of type VMPINDEX) for each package.

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:42:37 PM

Type: Note

Since you say above that the default package has index 0, this list suggests that the default package is part of the internal class range. Is this correct or do internal classes really start at index 1?

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:43:29 PM

Type: Note

Change ``class fully" to ``classes' fully"

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:45:33 PM

Type: Note

I don't think speedup is one word. Maybe it's hyphenated. (Several places.)

Sequence number: 6

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:45:15 PM

Type: Note

Replace 'have a' with 'allow'

### Page: 12

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:47:47 PM

Type: Note

I believe that superclass is one word and subclass has no hyphen.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:48:33 PM

Type: Note

`fields are classed' doesn't sound right.

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:49:12 PM

Type: Note

In C, they are called `members' not fields.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:49:37 PM

Type: Note

Do you mean treated differently. I don't think separately is the right word.

### Page: 13

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:49:59 PM

Type: Note Strike `the'.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:50:09 PM

Type: Note Strike `an' Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:50:32 PM

Type: Note

Insert `requiring' after `without'

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:50:55 PM

Type: Note

Change `a 8-byte' to `an 8-byte.

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:51:58 PM

Type: Note

This is almost the same name as chapter 3 itself. I think one of them should be somewhat different.

Sequence number: 6

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:52:36 PM

Type: Note

You say ordered, but you don't say. Perhaps the same as the entries in the table?

### Page: 14

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:53:09 PM

Type: Note

Chaneg 'sections content' to 'sections' contents'

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:53:53 PM

Type: Note

Is this parenthetic list necessary here? Are these examples are is this the complete list? Should there be an e.g., there

somewhere?

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:54:47 PM

Type: Note

Replace `In this area are stored' with `This section contains' just like the other sections here.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:55:14 PM

Type: Note

Ascii should be all caps

### Page: 15

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:55:39 PM

Type: Note

This is a very vague sentence.

## Page: 16

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:56:11 PM

Type: Note

Section 3.3 calls this the Class Section.

## Page: 21

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 7:59:13 PM

Type: Note

Is it the number of elements in this array that is undefined or each element's contents, or both?

## Page: 23

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:59:40 PM

Type: Note

3.3.2 calls this Bytecode Area List

## Page: 24

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:00:03 PM

Type: Note

3.3.2 calls this Exception table List

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:00:39 PM

Type: Note

Change two occurances of `referred' to `referred to'

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:01:14 PM

Type: Note

Isn't UTF spelled in all caps in regular verbage?

## Page: 26

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:01:37 PM

Type: Note

3.3 calls this Attributes Section

## Page: 29

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:03:04 PM

Type: Note

I think you adequately defined the term simple class name earlier. Im any event you don;t want to qualify each usage of that term with a perenthetical comment as is done here and below, and over the page.

## Page: 31

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:04:34 PM

Type: Note

Replace `The number of argument. 0 for a method without argument.'

with

`The number of arguments, which for a method without any arguments is zero.'

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:04:49 PM

Type: Note

3.3 calls this Digital Signature

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:05:22 PM

Type: Note

That's it? You say nothing at all about it!

### Page: 32

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:06:40 PM

Type: Note

Do instructions take arguments, or do they take operands? I don't know, I'm just asking.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:06:53 PM

Type: Note functionality

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:07:21 PM

Type: Note

close quote looks strange.

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:08:01 PM

Type: Note

In the 4.2.x examples an underscore is used instead of a hyphen. Should this be "jeff\_" instead?

Sequence number: 5

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:08:35 PM

Type: Note

You say normatively here. Is the other stuff non-normative? I don't understand the use of this word here.

## Page: 35

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:09:24 PM

Type: Note

Shouldn't jeff be JEFF in table column headers?

# Page: 47

Sequence number: 1

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:10:17 PM

Type: Note

Change Kb and Gb to KB and GB, respectively.

Sequence number: 2

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:10:44 PM

Type: Note

Giga really isn't a standard term. perhasp you can say 2^32.

Sequence number: 3

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:11:00 PM

Type: Note

Change `boundaries' to `limits'

Sequence number: 4

Author: rex

Date: 8/2/2001 8:11:21 PM

Type: Note

A cross-reference index would be helpful.