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ISO/IEC JTC 1 IT Vocabulary Maintenance Team Project Status Report

Background

At its 22nd Plenary in October 2007, JTC 1 created the ITVMT whose mandate is to develop a mechanism to support the updating of international IT Vocabulary. JTC 1 appointed Natalie Ranger as convener of the IT Vocabulary Maintenance Team (ITVMT) at its 2008 Plenary in Nara, Japan. With the approval of the Standards Council of Canada, she replaced Joseph Côté who continues to participate in the ITVMT as a member. National Bodies participating in the ITVMT are Canada, China, France, Japan, UK and USA.

The resolutions proposed by the ITVMT at its June 2008 meeting were approved by JTC 1 at the 2008 Plenary.

Scope

The following resolution, as quoted in document N9414, lays out the unanimously approved terms of reference of the ITVMT.

Resolution 10: Maintenance Team for IT Vocabulary

JTC 1 approves the revised Project Description for the Maintenance Team for IT Vocabulary contained in JTC 1 N9190 and confirms its Terms of Reference as follows:

Terms of Reference:

- Review, update and consolidate international vocabulary standards published by JTC 1, as approved by the Validation Team composed of participating National Bodies (NBs). This may include elimination or consolidation of some terms and definitions, and editorial revision. However, no such elimination, consolidation or editorial revision (other than grammar and punctuation) will take place without the review and consent of the JTC 1 Subcommittee responsible for the development of the term and/or definition, where one exists;
- Work with Subcommittees developing vocabulary and assist them in integrating their vocabulary into the JTC 1 corpus;
- Work with ISO in providing regular updates to the *ISO Concept Database*. Development of new vocabulary and concept maps is not within the initial scope of the Maintenance Team.

The Maintenance Team will develop the IT Vocabulary project according to the "Standards as Database" procedures as documented in STD_DBsN52 (also Annex ST of ISO Supplement). The outcome of its work will be a single-part international standard, retrievable in an alphabetic sequence appropriate to the language, in accordance with the previously JTC 1-adopted project plan. It is expected that the results of the Maintenance Team's efforts will be submitted to ITTF after the validation exercise is completed in the 3rd Quarter 2009 for publication as a database; JTC 1 will consult with ITTF to determine in what form the document will be disseminated in accordance with all applicable ISO/IEC directives.

As Subcommittees develop new IT terminology, JTC 1 reminds the Subcommittees that this information should be submitted to the Maintenance Team for uploading into the ISO Concept Database.

The project involves loading the IT Vocabulary terms and definitions into TERMIUM[®], the Government of Canada's terminology and linguistic data bank that contains over 3 million terms. Records in the data bank have one concept per record (single-concept principle). *TERMIUM Plus*[®], the public interface of this data bank, is freely available to ITVMT members and those participating in the project. When developing vocabulary, the ITVMT recommends SCs query the data bank to check whether a concept already exists within JTC 1 Vocabulary.

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Status

Note: all changes to entries are tracked in change logs

Note: entries appear in TERMIUM Plus® under the subject field ISO/IEC JTC 1 Information Technology Vocabulary

Review, update and consolidate international vocabulary standards published by JTC 1

Bilingual entries from the multi-part ISO/IEC 2382 standard:

- review: approximately 3250 entries loaded in TERMIUM Plus[®] as well as 29 entries from the most recently published part (ISO/IEC 2382-36:2008)
- update: all entries conform to ISO 10241:1992 International terminology standards Preparation and layout
- update: editorial revision (spelling and grammar errors)
- consolidate: identical records are consolidated into a single record. By default, if no
 consensus is reached on duplicate terms designating similar concepts, they are included
 in new version; i.e. records for these duplicate terms are not consolidated.
- schedule: according to Schedule of Work found in the Project Description, approximately
 five months behind schedule. However, it is anticipated that the remaining work will be
 completed in a shorter time frame.
- by the plenary, change logs distributed to ITVMT members for evaluation. If consensus is reached, this change log will be presented to the Validation Team (VT). According to the *Procedure for the development and maintenance of standards in database format*, editorial changes do not usually need approval by the VT.
- · proofreading of data bank records on-going for quality assurance

Unilingual entries from the multi-part ISO/IEC 19762 standard:

- Note: SC 31 has decided to merge the existing five parts into a single part
- review: approximately 660 records loaded in TERMIUM Plus[®]
- update: entries conform to ISO 10241:1992 International terminology standards Preparation and layout
- update: editorial revision (spelling and grammar errors)
- consolidate: identical records are consolidated into a single record. Although ISO/IEC 19762 entries are unilingual, if they are an exact match to the English entries of ISO/IEC 2382, the information is added to the ISO/IEC 2382 record. If no consensus is reached on duplicate terms designating similar concepts, they are left as is; i.e. records for these duplicate terms are not consolidated.
- schedule: completion of French equivalents is behind schedule due in part to a lack of resources. SC 31 passed a resolution asking AFNOR to provide French equivalents and definitions (voluntary participation). Expected completion date to be determined. Any information regarding ISO/IEC 19762 has been transferred to AFNOR.

Current Activities

A meeting is in the works for winter as the ITVMT members have requested more interaction, either through e-mail, meetings or teleconferences. Documents have been added to the ITVMT forum; however, consultation or use of the forum has been minimal.

Information has been relayed to ITVMT members to clarify the roles of the participants as well as the mechanism or process involved in the project (largely based on the process for the maintenance of existing standards described in the *Procedure for the development and maintenance of standards in database format*). Members are hesitant to modify existing ISO/IEC 2382 entries, in particular those for which changes related to term acceptability rating, definition writing and consistency were suggested. In the future, the maintenance process will be respected and these proposals will be submitted as change requests to the ITVMT.

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Work with Subcommittees developing vocabulary and assist them in integrating their vocabulary into the JTC 1 corpus

Since the beginning of the project, the following SCs have provided terms and definitions found in technical standards, vocabulary standards or standing documents for which they are responsible: SC 2, SC 22, SC 27, SC 31 (as explained above), SC 35, SC 36 (ISO/IEC 2382-36), SC 37. The convener is to load entries provided by these SCs into TERMIUM®, be they unilingual or bilingual (English and French).

Work with ISO in providing regular updates to the ISO Concept Database

Talks are ongoing with *ISO Concept database* representatives on data transfer. An initial transfer of the JTC1 corpus took place in 2008 for testing purposes and the ITVMT convener helped test the database prototype in November and December 2008.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1 – National Body Participation in the ITVMT

The ITVMT requests that JTC 1 consider and adopt the following draft resolution:

"Resolution aa - National Body Participation in the ITVMT

JTC 1 requests each participating NB either to reconfirm its Validation Team member or appoint one person to become part of the Validation Team as defined in *Procedure for the development and maintenance of standards in database format*:

ST.3.5

validation team

VT

permanent, "executive", group of individuals appointed by and acting as delegates on behalf of their National Bodies, A-liaison organizations and committee-internal liaisons to validate proposed items and vote for their release as part of a database standard

NOTE 1 All P-members, A-liaison organizations and committee-internal liaisons have the right to appoint one member to the team. A validation team comprises a minimum of 5 P-members. Representatives of P-members have the right to vote, representatives of A-liaisons and committee-internal liaisons do not have the right to vote, but may submit comments.

NOTE 2 The described procedure asks for very short response times from the validation team members. Therefore, the National Bodies should appoint one or more deputies that can take over the task when the official member is unavailable (due to travel, business, etc.).

NOTE 3 The appointing bodies decide on the duration of an appointment. They should also organize any supporting network of experts at national level.

NOTE 4 The TC/SC secretariat manages the validation team."

Recommendation 2 – Subcommittee Participation in the ITVMT

To ensure success, it is important that the ITVMT work with Subcommittees developing vocabulary and assist them in integrating their vocabulary into the JTC 1 corpus. The ITVMT therefore requests that JTC 1 consider and adopt the following resolution:

"Resolution bb - Subcommittee Participation in the ITVMT

JTC 1 instructs its Subcommittees that, as the Subcommittees develop new IT terminology, the Subcommittees should be submitting this information to the Maintenance Team for uploading into the ISO Concept Database.

Further, as the first phase of maintaining the JTC 1 Vocabulary is in its final stages, JTC 1 instructs each Subcommittee to appoint a representative, if not already done, who will provide the

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Subcommittee's standardized vocabulary to the ITVMT. Subcommittees are asked to ensure that the ITVMT is apprised of any updates or new versions of their vocabulary."