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### ISO/IEC JTC 1 Information Technology

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## **US National Body Contribution in Response to JTC 1 N 9609 - Directives Draft section on archiving for incorporation in proposed standing document EDPDA**

The United States is aware of evolving ISO and IEC archiving procedures and appreciates that ISO's participation in a SWG-ARM meeting was an attempt at coordinating these efforts. Therefore, in light of the evolution of current ISO/IEC activities, the contribution from the UK appears to be premature.

The United States further notes that Section 15 of "JTC001-N-9718\_Standing Document on EDPDA" contains the archiving material found in Section 4.6 of the JTC 1 Directives. The proposal from the UK in JTC 1 N 9766 to replace Section 15 material raises concerns which must be fully discussed before they could be adopted:

1. ISO/IEC document archival responsibilities should be documented in the ISO/IEC Directives (not in the JTC 1 Supplement).
2. The provision of a document in revisable text form is appropriate, but the reference to the JTC 1 Directives must be corrected to the current document set. This is not particularly an archiving issue.
3. The term "metadata" is introduced without definition (and it is not used in the JTC 1 Directives).
4. The statement about differences between ISO and IEC handling of documents does not indicate what JTC 1 should be doing about WG archiving of documents.
5. The reference at the end of 15.1 to a "machine-readable, structured format" is not clear, particularly in how it relates to approved document formats in section 6.
6. Section 15.3 greatly extends to concepts of which documents must be archived, and appears to place this responsibility on WGs.
7. The proposal to modify section 14 would place an obligation on WGs to develop business plans and establish archival policies.

The United States encourages JTC 1 to consider this contribution, and other SWG-ARM recommendations, and coordinate them with the Central Secretariat and ITSIG to avoid duplication of, or divergence from, ISO/IEC archiving procedures. At this time, the United States recommends retaining the current archiving material in the JTC 1 Supplement.