Telecommunications and Information Exchange Between Systems

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 6

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Belgian Contribution on the organization of further development of NFC standards

The Belgian National Committee supports both JTC1/SC6/WG1 (working on NFC standards) and JTC1/SC17/WG8 (working on contactless smart cards) for bringing optimized solutions in both related markets. Both groups together with their mutual liaison relationship support the development of standards promoting new technologies while preserving interoperability.

ISO/IEC 14443 was developed by SC17/WG8 for Proximity Contactless Circuit Cards and readers, and ISO/IEC 18092 and ISO/IEC 21481 were developed by SC6/WG1 for NFC devices. The interoperability among those standards is ensured by the harmonious liaison interactions between SC17, SC6 and Ecma International so far. Today specifications allow ubiquitous 14443 compliant PCDs to read compliant NFC devices and NFC devices are able to read 14443 compliant PICCs as well.

It is our opinion that interoperability should be preserved in further standardization efforts in SC6 and SC17. Both groups have a successful track record in bringing quality standards each in their market. SC6 published 6 NFC-related standards providing an intuitive proximity wireless interface to consumer devices. JTC1 directives demand the liaison mechanism to foster the harmonization between SC6 and SC17; including Ecma International partner.

NFC standardization is at the right place in SC6/WG1 because it fits with its scope: "Telecommunications and Information Exchange Between Systems".
Transferring some modes to SC17s would disrupt the landscape of those standards and may hamper further NFC innovations because of the scope of SC17.

Like other national committees, the Belgian National Committee does not support the transfer of particular modes of NFC standards into the work program of SC17.