

ISO/IEC JTC 1 N 9930

2009-12-01

ISO/IEC JTC 1 **Information Technology**

Document Type: Other document (defined)

Document Title: ISO/IEC 29199 Project Extension Request

Document Source: SC 7 Convenor

Reference:

Document Status: This document is forwarded to JTC 1 National Bodies for a default letter

ballot. If the JTC 1 Secretariat receives no objections to the SC 7 request, it

will be forwarded to ITTF for processing.

Action ID: ACT

Due Date: 2010-02-01

No. of Pages: 2

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Document type Request

Title ISO/IEC 29119 Project Extension Request Source ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 7/WG 26 Convener

Status Final

Reference Resolution 1153
Action ID FYI or ACT

Justification for the Request for the Extension of Time for ISO/IEC 29119 Parts 2 & 3.

Project 29119 was started after SC 7 Plenary meeting (Moscow, May 2007) as a result of ballot NP 3701. Of the five National Bodies that committed themselves to participating in the project in this ballot, only two have actually provided any input and currently only one remains (as the convener).

The resolution subdivided the standard into four parts and appointed four editors and an SC7 processes and JTC1 procedures advisor. Of these five WG members, three were new to ISO standards development and the two experienced WG members have since resigned their positions.

One (experienced) editor left after having made no contribution over a period of 4 meetings. Also five days' work of the WG at their 3rd meeting (the interim meeting in Seoul) was made redundant due to mistaken advice being followed from the Head of the US delegation.

Part 2, the process part of the standard was initially distributed as a working draft and over 1500 comments were received and resolved. It has subsequently been re-drafted to conform to the new requirements of ISO/IEC 24774 and to ensure it can be used for process assessment using ISO/IEC 15504 (and achieve harmonization with ISO 12207 and ISO 15288). A second working draft was distributed and a further 1000 comments were received. These comments have been resolved and this part will be distributed as a committee draft before the end of December 2009. The testing process defined in the current draft is already being used in several organizations, such as large multi-national banks.

Part 3, the documentation part of the standard, is dependent on (and needs to be consistent with) part 2 and has also been distributed as a working draft and the comments will be resolved and this part will also be distributed as a committee draft before the end of December 2009.

Part 1, on software testing concepts, is well underway and ahead of schedule, while work on part 4 is due to start in the next few months, in line with the initial plan, and is also the best-understood of the four parts.

After a slow start, due mostly to the inexperience of those working on it and changes to how ISO processes should be defined (and partly due to a lack of support from early volunteers), the work is now progressing well. The WG are now confident that the latest drafts are on the right track to completion and that a 12-month extension will allow for successful publication of the standard, with subsequent stages (enquiry, and approval) following the default timeframes as expected.