

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC31/WG1: DATA CARRIERS

CONVENER'S REPORT TO THE SC31 PLENARY IN MOSCOW

25 May 2006

1. Activity report summary

WG1 held four meetings since the last Plenary and plans to hold at least two more before returning to its dormant state. All nine of its published standards are going through reaffirmation with several nearing re-publication. Three new projects (EAN.UCC Composite, RSS, and MicroPDF417) are finished with balloting and are awaiting publication. There is been one brand new assignment for WG1, Aztec Code WG1 and WG3 together are responsible for the maintenance of the OCR standards and have not received any requests for document copies since the last Plenary.

WG1 requests the action that the nomination of Mr. Spitz to become Project Editor (PE) for 24723 and 24724 be added to the SC 31 Plenary Resolutions in Moscow.

2. Document status and actions

2.1 Current document status

Data Carrier Title	Project Number	Most Recent Document	Project Editor	Began Re-affirmation Work	Most Recent Action
Code 128	15417	31 N1966	C. Swindin	June 2005	FCD ballot closed 5 April, BRM scheduled for 16 August 06
EAN/UPC	15420	31N2029	S. Ackley	December 2005	Scheduled to re-balloted as a CD
Symbology/Data Carrier Identifiers	15424	Published version	C. Swindin	December 2005	Re-affirmation work is underway, agenda item at the Paris meeting
PDF417	15438	31N1836	H. Clark	June 2004	Approved for publication
Data Matrix	16022	31N2035	S. Ackley	March 2004	Waiting for ISO FDIS ballot to issue
MaxiCode	16023	Published version	S. Ackley	August 2005	Stabilization ballot passed 17 April 06 without comments
Code 39	16388	31 N1967	S. Ackley	June 2005	FCD ballot closed 5 April, BRM scheduled for 16 August 06
Interleaved 2-of-5	16390	31 N1968	S. Ackley	June 2005	FCD ballot closed 5 April, BRM scheduled for 16 August 06
QR Code	18004	31N2030	C. Swindin	September 2004*	Waiting for ISO FDIS ballot to issue

Micro QR Code	24719	N/A	C. Swindin/ Y. Tsujimoto	September 2004	Withdrawn June 2005 and its technology combined with QR Code 18004
EAN.UCC Composite Symbology	24723	31N1834	T. Williams	July 2004*	FDIS ballot completed, waiting for publication
Reduced Space Symbology	24724	31N1833	T. Williams	July 2004*	FDIS ballot completed, error discovered, resolution by Paris meeting
MicroPDF417	24728	31N1835	C. Swindin	June 2004*	Approved for publication
Aztec Code	24778	31N1959	A. Longacre	August 2006*	CD ballot closed, BRM on 19 June, agenda item for the Paris meeting

*Note: Unpublished documents, not re-affirmation efforts. Dates are when original work began or will begin.

2.2 Document status action request

Documents 24723 and 24724 no longer have a PE due to the untimely passing of Mr. Ted Williams. At its nineteenth meeting in Kyoto, Japan, Resolution 2 was adopted unanimously and is reproduced below:

WG1 resolves to inform the SC31 secretariat that Mr. Glenn Spitz has volunteered to become project editor for RSS - 24724 and EAN/UCC Composite - 24723.

WG1 requests that Mr. Spitz's nomination as PE for 24723 and 24724 be formalized by resolution at the SC 31 Plenary in Moscow.

3. Meetings and Future work

3.1 New work items

3.1.1 WG1 has recently been assigned a new work item 24778 for Aztec Code.

3.1.2 The AIM TSC has distributed for comment a draft Quality Guideline for Direct Part Marks (DPM). It is possible that the technology in this document may lead to changes in some WG1 documents.

3.1.3 It is possible that the AIM document for Extended Channel Interpretation (ECI) will be submitted as a NP and that it will be assigned to WG1.

3.1.3 WG1 is fully prepared to take on new work items related to data carriers, as required. In addition, WG1 stands ready to assist other SC31 work groups and liaisons with any questions or issues pertaining to data carriers.

3.2 OCR

3.2.1 WG1 and WG3 have joint responsibility for OCR standard maintenance. The original drawing package is located at the offices of the SC31 Secretariat. An OCR Ad Hoc Advisory Group consists of C. Biss, P. Chartier, H. Clark, A. Haberman, S. Halliday, K. I. Larsson, A. Longacre, C. Swindin, Y. Tsujimoto, F. Sharkey and J. Wells.

3.2.2 There have been no requests for drawing copies since the last Plenary.

3.2.3 CEN/TC304 published EN14603-2005 which is basically an updated version of ISO 1073-II with the Euro sign added. WG1 and WG3 may need to decide whether 1073-II should remain unchanged or revised either by simply adding an Annex for the Euro character or by updating the entire document.

3.2.4 WG1 appreciates the support of its CEN liaison, OCR expert Mr. K. I. Larsson.

3.3 Symbolology/Data Carrier Identifiers (SDCI)

As required, WG1 supports the efforts of AIM to maintain the SDCI document. Since the last Plenary, there has been substantial discussion regarding the expansion of SDCI support for RFID.

3.4 Meetings

3.4.1 WG1 held its seventeenth meeting in conjunction with the Singapore Plenary Week on 7 June 2005 focusing on Code 128, Code 39 and Interleaved 2 of 5.

3.4.2 WG1 held its eighteenth meeting on 23 and 24 August 2005 in Toulouse, France focusing on EAN/UPC and MaxiCode as well as several BRMs. WG1 held a joint meeting with WG4/SG1 to seek their advice on adding RFID flags to Symbolology/Data Carrier Identifiers.

3.4.3 WG1 held its nineteenth meeting on 11 January 2006 in Plantation, FL, USA focusing on EAN/UPC and BRMs for Data Matrix and QR Code. WG1 held a joint meeting with the AIM RFID Experts Group (REG) to seek their advice on adding RFID flags to Symbolology/Data Carrier Identifiers.

3.4.4 WG1 held its twentieth meeting on 16 March 2006 in Kyoto, Japan focusing on project status and planning. WG1 held a joint meeting with WG4, WG4/SG3 and WG4/SG5 to seek their advice on adding RFID flags to Symbolology/Data Carrier Identifiers.

3.4.5 WG1 has called its twenty-first WG1 meeting for 16 August 2006 in Paris, France to focus on Aztec Code, Symbolology/Data Carrier Identifiers and several BRMs.

3.4.6 WG1 plans to hold future meetings on 25 January 2007 in Sydney, Australia and in May 2007 in Pretoria, South Africa.

4. Membership

WG1 is fortunate to have the support of experts from Japan, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States, together with liaison experts from CEN TC225, EAN International, and the UPU.

5. Acknowledgements

WG1 is grateful to AIM for its role as the WG1 Secretariat and in particular to Mr. Chris Swindin.

6. Closing

Thank you for your support of technically rigorous international data carrier standards.

Respectfully submitted:

Sprague Ackley
WG1 Convener
1 May 2006