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Canadian Contribution to JTC 1 N 9758,
Proposed Terms of Reference (ToR)
for
JTC 1 Working Group on Sensor Networks (WGSN)

Canada is generally supportive of the Terms of Reference for this new JTC 1 WG for Sensor Networks proposed by the US National Body.

Canada would suggest enhancing the Proposed Terms of Reference as follows:

1. Canada notes the extensive list of JTC 1 SCs to which this new group should establish liaison, but considers that in a few cases "exclusions" should also be added, Canada offers the following draft text, specifically:

1.1 "The JTC 1 WG is excluded from developing standards in the area of Security, should a need be identified that is not already addressed by ISO/IEC JTC 1 SC 27, such activities must be undertaken in conjunction with SC 27;"

1.2 The Terms of Reference should be enhanced to ensure that confusion does not occur with "electrical power grids" which are already addressed by existing IEC and ISO TCs and by standards and standards development work already being undertaken by JTC1/SC 25,

1.2.1 Canada also notes JTC 1 N 9772, the statement of SC 25.

2. Canada also notes the the extensive list of organizations outside JTC 1 that are already working in this area, notably TC 65 and TC 205. Given the number of other "players" in this field, it is not clear exactly what gap this new JTC 1 WG is to fill. Given that this is the case, Canada would suggest that a general exclusion should also be added, perhaps along the lines of the following:

2.1 "The JTC 1 WG is excluded from developing standards in areas already addressed by other ISO and IEC TCs and should a need be identified that is not already addressed by other ISO and IEC TCs, such work must be undertaken in conjunction with those other groups.

3. Finally, given the quantity of other work that is ongoing in this and related areas both within JTC 1, and ISO and IEC, Canada would suggest that this new group be tasked with developing a "Gap Analysis", perhaps as a Technical Report, as its first item of business, so that all parties can better understand exactly what areas this new group will address that are not already being covered elsewhere.