

Subject: re Liaison Letter to the W3C

Dear Committee Manager,

Thank you for the liaison letter from ISO/TC 42 Photography regarding gain maps.

W3C has been aware of the work since 2021, and I have discussed it at a couple of International Color Consortium HDR WG meetings; I also saw a demo of this, in Adobe Photoshop and running on an Apple HDR display, at the ICC meeting in London in April this year. However, this is the first time I have seen the actual draft text of the specification, which clears up some questions I had and raises others.

In terms of interest, this is of direct relevance to the Portable Network Graphics (PNG) Working Group. We have already extended PNG to add CICC metadata for color model signaling (including BT.2100 PQ and HLG images) and also to add Mastering Display Color Volume and Content Light Level Information, all of which relate to HDR images in PNG.

This work took place for PNG Third Edition, which is currently a W3C Candidate Recommendation and being finalized.

<https://www.w3.org/TR/png-3/>

We have also this month started on work for a PNG Fourth Edition, and gain maps would appear to be directly in scope. Which brings me to two immediate questions:

1. ISO/NP 21496-1:20XX in Annex C, Storing the gain map, contains placeholders for AVIF, HEIF and JPEG. W3C requests that a placeholder for PNG be added.
2. The preamble disallows public sharing of the document:

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This makes sharing the document with the PNG WG problematic; we work in public with a publicly archived mailing list and public GitHub repository. Is TC 42 in a position to allow this draft to be shared so that the PNG WG can read it and comment, or should I apply directly to the ISO copyright office for permission?

3. Is the intention that the final ISO Standard be publicly available (as is the case with some other ISO specifications, such as the ones for Open Font Format created by ISO/IEC JTC 1 SC29)?

Best regards,

Chris Lilley, Technical Director and PNG Working Group staff contact, W3C