

Charter of the ISO Steering Committee for Image Technology as Revised 2001-06-19

Preamble

The current world of image technology covers a wide range of applications and industrial segments. As a result there is no one group or standards committee which has an overview of this area. In addition the field of image technology draws upon standards from many different areas and adapts them to their needs. This leads to fragmentation of standards development and redundant or overlapping work, largely due to lack of information rather than intentional duplication of effort. A key issue is what is considered imaging or image technology. A definition from a standards coordinating group in the 80's is still as good as any. They defined an image as "a representation or presentation giving a visual impression" and image technology as "any operations conducted on images that capture, synthesize, record, reproduce, convert, process, distribute, and display using photographic, electronic, computer or hybrid methods". This definition applies equally to the world of digital imaging today as it did to the world of analogue imaging then.

The ISO Technical Management Board (TMB) in their meeting of September 2000 recommended in resolution 57-2000 that a Steering Committee for Image Technology (SCIT) be established in accordance with the proposal from JTAG2. The following is the charter under which the SCIT will work.

Scope

The purpose of the SCIT is to manage coordination activities by sharing information and not to assign or manage specific imaging standards projects. The intent is to identify new work as early as possible and to optimize the use of resources for the development of standards in image technology. In this context, imaging technology is defined as any system or process that is used for the formation, acquisition, storage, retrieval, rendering (display, printing, etc) and reproduction of any combination of pictorial, textual, or graphical material.

Membership

The membership of the SCIT is open to all ISO TCs (including ISO/IEC JTC 1) and SCs involved in image technology, and appropriate groups within any recognized international standardizing body (CIE, ITU, IEC, etc.) . Membership is also offered to any broadly based group developing specifications or using standards for image technology, contingent upon approval by the membership of the SCIT. For-profit organizations, companies, or individuals may only participate as observers.

The ISO Central Secretariat is a member of the SCIT.

Status of existing liaisons

The SCIT will complement and not replace existing technical liaisons and cooperative agreements.

Appointment of Chair

The chair of the SCIT is appointed by the SCIT membership for a 3 year term. The chair shall be a participant in an ISO TC or SC. Reappointment for one consecutive term is permitted at the will of the membership of the SCIT.

Appointment of Vice Chair

The vice chair of the SCIT is appointed by the SCIT membership for a 3 year term. The vice chair shall be a participant in an ISO TC or SC. Reappointment for one consecutive term is permitted at the will of the membership of the SCIT.

Appointment of Secretary

The secretary of the SCIT shall be appointed by the SCIT membership for a 3 year term. Reappointment for one consecutive term is permitted at the will of the membership of the SCIT.

Operations

- One focus of the SCIT will be on planning activities to accomplish collaboration in support of interoperability.
- The SCIT shall be considered as a legitimate liaison to each of its members, therefore all documents that support the goals of the SCIT shall be made available to all members. Further, wherever possible these documents will be made publicly available.
- The SCIT will make recommendations to the TMB and to the participating organizations where appropriate in its coordination role.
- Each participating TC, SC or group shall appoint a primary and alternate delegate to the SCIT. These may be changed by the TC, SC or group, but notification must come from the TC/SC secretariat or parent body of the group.
- The SCIT shall review the need for its continuance at each of its meetings.
- The SCIT will use electronic means wherever appropriate.

Meeting schedule

The intent is that the SCIT will meet at least every 9 months alternating its meetings between Geneva and a host country location.

Deliverables

The SCIT will maintain a publically available database of standards, standards projects, and industry specifications used in or produced by groups involved in imaging technology. These will include items at all stages of development from preliminary through published standards. Wherever possible it will include the applicable work of industry groups as well as accredited standards developing organizations. This will build upon and integrate with existing databases to the maximum extent possible.

It is expected that this database can be used to help identify areas needing standards attention, areas of redundant activity, as well as to provide a roadmap for those desiring an understanding of the available standards.

Outreach

The members of the SCIT will be expected to ensure that their own members and liaisons and all market sectors are appraised of the progress of the SCIT.