Title: Reply to William Klein on L2/01-035
                "COBOL FCD Normative Reference to ISO/IEC 14652"
Source: NCITS L2
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Date: February 13, 2001
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Action: For Review and Response

The NCITS L2 Committee discussed Mr. Klein's request regarding the advisability of normatively referencing TR 14652 by the COBOL standard.

NCITS/L2 considers it inadvisable to do so: TR 14652 offers no implementation aids and its future as a maintained ISO technical report is doubtful.

Instead, we recommend referencing the Unicode Standard which defines normative case mapping properties, with on-line tables available to facilitate implementors. The Unicode Standard addresses the case mapping of all characters encoded in the standard, including the Turkish usage of the dotless i, and the Greek small letter final sigma. It also provides a default mapping which may be useful as a default for programming languages such as COBOL.

Members of the L2 Committee have been active as reviewers of the draft COBOL standard within their respective companies .We feel confident that this avenue has provided adequate review and comment on the new version of the COBOL standard.

However, if there are other specific areas of concern for which the COBOL committee would like feedback from L2 on character set and internationalization issues, please contact us, and we will be most happy to respond.

End of document.