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Coded Character Sets
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The main significant event since last SC2 meeting is the adoption by IETF of IDNA (International Domain Name Architecture) and its related specifications as a Proposed IETF Standard (RFC number pending). IDNA extends the scope of the DNS (Domain Name Server) architecture to allow Internet Domain Name to use most of the ISO/IEC 10646 characters while preserving the current implementations.

Furthermore, additional work is in progress to formalize the usage of IRI (Internationalized Resource Identifiers) which expands the scope of URI (Universal Resource Identifier) in wide use on Internet. IRIs are already de facto described by many W3C recommendations. The IRI draft specification directly uses the ISO/IEC 10646 repertoire and additional property definitions described by the Unicode Standard such as the normalization transformation. The work on IRI is done through a collaborative effort between W3C and IETF.

Finally, work has been initiated on additional schemes and protocols, now that IDNA is finalized, to extend their scope to ISO/IEC 10646 and Unicode. A particular area of focus is the messaging services. Significant progress is expected in 2003.

Further information can be found on the IETF web site at <http://www.ietf.org/>

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