

L2/11-325

Title: Process for Initiation of New Versions of the Unicode Standard

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Action: For consideration by the UTC

From time to time the UTC determines that there is a need to prepare and release a new version of the Unicode Standard. Various criteria may trigger such a decision: for example, approval of significant new repertoire additions by the UTC, the approval of a significant change to one or more files of the Unicode Character Database, or the requirement to make a significant content change to the Core Specification or to one or more Unicode Standard Annexes.

Whatever the content for a particular new version of the Unicode Standard may be, when it does become necessary, the UTC will take the following steps:

1. Record a consensus of the UTC to initiate a new version of the Unicode Standard, including a determination of the major, minor, and update numbers to be used for the version.
2. Authorize the creation of a corresponding numbered directory under the /Public directory on the website, to hold the UCD for that version.
3. Authorize the editorial committee to create and post proposed updates of the corresponding versions of all the Unicode Standard Annexes. These proposed updates will, at the minimum, contain the required boilerplate changes to indicate a new revision and proposed update status, but may also have pre-authorized and proposed new content changes, as well, for public review.

Once the UTC initiates a new version of the Unicode Standard, it will be considered to be in alpha development status, until the UTC makes further explicit decisions which will:

1. Determine the exact approved repertoire to be associated with the version.
2. Initiate the formal beta review of the UCD and other related content.