

Title: Shuowen Seal Ad Hoc Meeting Resolutions

Type: Ad Hoc Report

Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2

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This document reports on points of consensus reached in Shuowen Seal Ad Hoc, laying out the plan for future work to encode Shuowen Seal characters in UCS. The points addressed in **Q1-3** below derive from issues raised in WG2/N4834, and discussed in N4843, N4844, and N4852.

The Ad Hoc participants also resolve to express their unanimous and deepest thanks to the meeting host, 魏林梅, CMEX, and 大同大學, for the great care taken to organize this successful conference.

Q1: Is the encoding of Seal as a separate script the best solution?

- There is unanimous agreement that Shuowen Seal characters should be encoded as a separate script, in a new block, independent of CJKUI (and not by means of a VS scheme taking CJKUI as Base).
- The working name of the script will be “Shuowen Seal”, and the character names will be algorithmically derived beginning with “Shuowen Seal Character U+3XXXX” (per the Road Map, in the TIP=Tertiary Ideographic Plane). Any subsequent supplemental block might be named “Seal Supplement”.
- As a separate script, CJKUI guidelines (such as Annex S) will not apply, but new rules will be developed and documented in the process of determining the repertory.

Q2: How should duplicate glyphs be handled in a standard encoding?

- There is agreement to define “duplicate” with a typology, using terms such as (A) “exact duplicate”, (B) “possible duplicate”, and (C) “non-duplicate”.
- There is agreement to handle items (A) and (B) using a VS scheme to be determined. Items in (C) would not be suitable for unification.
- There is agreement to create tables to document the decisions made with respect to the handling of specific duplicates.

Q3: Compatibility with existing reference and research implementations.

- There is agreement that 藤花樹本 may serve as “baseline”, for the determination of the repertory (the number of rows / code points), and for production of a single-column chart in 藤花樹本 glyph style.
- There is agreement to create multi-column charts (for reference in

developing the Shuowen Seal encoding methodology, repertory, and property data), including columns representing the glyphs of specific important editions of Shuowen. The multi-column chart data will include at minimum 藤花榭本 and 陳昌治本 columns (glyphs and mappings), but may also include data for additional columns as available.

- There is agreement that issues related to 避諱 (taboo character deformation / glyph substitution) will be addressed in conjunction with multi-column chart development (perhaps by means of a VS scheme).

- Details of the encoding methodology, script documentation, character repertory, character properties (print sources, radical assignment, collation, etc), and specific code-chart form will be determined as the result of the above process, and a consensus proposal for the encoding of a new Shuowen Seal block will be submitted to WG2.