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## ISO/IEC JTC 1 Information Technology

- **Document Type:** Other document (Defined)
- **Document Title:** JTC 1 STABILIZED STANDARDS PROCESS
- Document Source: JTC 1 Secretariat

**Document Status:** As per JTC 1 Hawaii resolution 17, JTC 1 introduces the category of 'Stabilized Standards'. A stabilized standard is one that has ongoing validity and effectiveness but is mature and insofar as can be determined will not require further maintenance of any sort. While a standard is in stabilized status it will no longer be subject to periodic maintenance but will be retained to provide for the continued viability of existing products or servicing of equipment that is expected to have a long working life.

JTC 1 adopts the proposal on Stabilized Standards as outlined in document JTC 1 N 6604, JTC 1 Stabilized Standards Process, and requests that the procedures for this new category of standards be consolidated into the revised JTC 1 Directives that are presently being undertaken.

JTC 1 suggests to ISO and IEC that they examine JTC 1's experience with stabilized standards after an appropriate period of time to determine the wider applicability of this classification of standard.

Noting the applicability of stabilized status to many OSI standards, JTC 1 encourages the OSI Maintenance Rapporteur to submit appropriate OSI standards for stabilized status.

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## JTC 1 STABILIZED STANDARDS PROCESS

A stabilized standard is one that has ongoing validity and effectiveness but is mature and insofar as can be determined will not require further maintenance of any sort. While a standard is in stabilized status it will no longer be subject to periodic maintenance but will be retained to provide for the continued viability of existing products or servicing of equipment that is expected to have a long working life.

The options available to Sub Committees and National Bodies at the Five Year review of standards are increased to include such a category of standard. The full range of options at these reviews are now:

- Confirm
- Revise
- Declare as Stabilized
- Withdraw

At least one five-year review cycle must pass after the last modification to an existing standard before it can recommended for stabilization by the owning committee.

To initiate the introduction of the category, Sub Committees are invited to review the standards under their responsibility and may recommend that such standards be re-classified as stabilized standards. Each recommendation shall be accompanied by a statement of rationale. Sub Committees may make such recommendations to the JTC 1 Secretariat until 2002-06-30 when the JTC 1 Secretariat will issue a 60-day Letter ballot to participating National Bodies to confirm the status of these standards.

Following the introductory period, a Sub committee will recommend that a standard be put in stabilized status as a part of the routine 5 year review process. In each case the recommendation is accompanied by a statement of rationale and results in a JTC 1 letter ballot as is done in the case of a reaffirmation recommendation.

Once a standard is stabilized it will be recorded on a master list of stabilized standards kept by the ISO Central Secretariat and available to the JTC 1 Secretariat and to all Sub Committee Secretariats. This record will include the date of first addition to the list and the rationale provided as above. Stabilized standards will also be indicated as such on the ISO Catalogue.

Stabilized standards are no longer subject to the routine 5 year review process; however, each Sub Committee shall periodically review a current list of its own stabilized standards to ensure that they still belong in stabilized status.

Where a Sub Committee or National Body becomes aware that a stabilized standard is no longer in use or its use has been superseded or it now unsafe to continue to use the standard, the Sub Committee or National Body may request JTC 1 to issue an immediate 60 day letter ballot to reclassify the standard as withdrawn.

If a new work proposal is generated and adopted against a stabilized standard, the standard is automatically removed by the Secretariat from the list of stabilized standards. A new work proposal against a stabilized standard must explicitly note that the standard is stabilized and that the effect of adoption of the new work proposal will be to return the standard to active status. To be eligible once

again for stabilization the standard must go through the same process as it did initially, including no modification for at least one five year maintenance cycle.

The owning JTC 1 Sub Committee may act to remove a standard from stabilized status at any time and it may request a 60 day letter ballot to reinstate the standard as current.