ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC2/WG2/IRG

Ideographic Rapporteur Group

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TCA request IRG to reconsider to make a full set of radical as a separate collection independent from the Unified Ideograph repertoire.

Argument/Text of Contribution:

Contact:
Mr. Zhang_zhoucai MEC/CCID
Rapportuer of ISO-IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2/IRG
54 Xisanhuan Bei Rd., Beijing 100044
Tel:(8610) 841.2606 Fax:(8610) 841.1363 E-mail:ZhangJoe@sun.ihep.ac.cn

TCA's Position Concerning on the WG2's comments of Ideographic Radical Supplement

At the WG2 #31 meeting in Quebec, Mr. Takayuki Sato and Dr. Glenn Adams asked the following question:

"Why IRG just propose to encode part of radical set? Is it better than to make a single but full set collection of radical as a separate collection."

KangXi radicals are widely used in Ideographic characters. For example, in most of the Ideographic dictionaries, the ideographs are sorted by KangXi radicals and data files are saved by use of radicals as an index key. Some people even take it as an important method to keyin the Ideographic characters data, etc. For these considerations, TCA-CNS 11643:1992 intentionally encoded the KangXi radicals at the Symbol Area in a continuous sequence so as to fulfill the requirement of sorting, etc.

Therefore, **TCA propose that IRG should reconsider to make a full radical set as a separate collection independent from the Unified CJK Ideograph repertoire** and it is based on the following rationales:

(1) To avoid the confusion of the unification rules. (Right now in IRG's proposal of radical, some radicals are applied the unification rules but some are not.)
(2) The users can use it as the index key as they usually did, and we believe the separate and full radical set will be more usable in the information processing of ideographs.
(3) It also solves the existed two-way conversion problems between ISO 10646 and TCA-CNS 11643, and this is the general principle of ISO 10646 that described at item 4 under clause 7 of ISO/IEC 10646-1.