



DATE: 2002-03-25

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2/IRG
Ideographic Rapporteur Group
Secretariat: China**

DOC TYPE:	National Body Contribution
TITLE:	Reconsidering request: “Font supply guide for UCS development” (M41.13)
SOURCE:	Japan: tks
PROJECT:	JTC 1.02.18 – ISO/IEC 10646
STATUS:	Input to IRG
ACTION ID:	For discussion by IRG #19
DUE DATE:	
DISTRIBUTION:	IRG members and Liaison organizations
Reference	WG2 resolution M41.13
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Attached please find a contribution paper from Japan to the WG2.

The paper requests to reconsider the font submission rule of the WG2 for UCS development.

Japan requests IRG to discuss this paper and submit a position paper of the IRG to the WG2.



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ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) - ISO/IEC 10646
Secretariat: ANSI

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This document requests WG2 to reconsider WG2 resolution M41.13 (Font submissions rule).

M41.13 from Singapore is following. Please note that the all CJK related countries except for Singapore are negative for the resolution.

This fact might indicate some potential problem(s) with the font supply policy.

RESOLUTION M41.13 (Policy regarding fonts for submissions to 10646):

Against: China, Japan, Republic of Korea;

Abstention: DPR of Korea;

For: Canada, Singapore, Sweden and the USA.

WG 2 adopts the following policy and invites all proposers to take note regarding fonts, towards being able to publish the standard and its amendments on schedule:

- a. The fonts must be made available to the editor in True Type Format. The fonts provided must not be subject to restrictions that will prevent their use in the process of editing or on-line publication of the standard and other related publications such as the Unicode Standard.
 - b. For a complete script proposal or addition of small repertoires to existing scripts, the font must be made available prior to the FDAM / FDIS ballot. Otherwise, they will not be included in the FDAM/FDIS.
 - c. For refinements of glyphs in the standard the font must be provided to the editor – otherwise the refinement will not be done.
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Following are the concerns:

1. The CJK unified ideograph addition onto the UCS will be proposed by IRG per agreed upon character shapes. Therefore, the para.-a request (font should be made available.....) to be requested for IRG in principle. The IRG does not have a right to submit a font to the editor because IRG does not have any ownership on any font.
2. The IRG uses the character shape (printed in principle) for it's review process. The IRG is, in principle, free from font.
3. Submitters of the requests for the IRG (national bodies), normally have NOT an ownership of the a font also. Even if some of the national body have a right to submit their font to printing purpose of an standard, those font may not cover all ideographs that IRG proposes and may be different design from what unified ideograph needed. Thus, those fonts, even if they are available, do not satisfy the printing purpose of the unified ideograph of a standard.
4. In short, the font is not available from IRG.
5. Due to the very high cost of the font for CJK ideographs, to insist any single format for submission is not practical.
6. Another issue is para-c. "For refinements of glyphs in the standard the font must be provided to the editor" indicates a possibility of changing a character shape by editor. This is NOT acceptable practice for the CJK ideographs. Because of very shape sensitive nature of the CJK ideographs, any change has a potential of the "different from IRG agreement".. Therefore, refinement of the font by editor should not be done. Any change after IRG submission require another review and agreement of the IRG.

Due to the above reason, Japan request the WG2 to reconsider the M41.13, at least for CJK ideographs.

Japan believes this is a subject to be discussed between Standard printing organization and font vender who provided a font for IRG for review and has a font that is approved by IRG.

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