

# Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set

## UCS

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2    IRG N 905

Date: 2002-04-22

Source:	National Body of Japan
Title:	New work proposal for a basic subset of  CJK Unified Ideographs
Status :	National Body contribution
Distribution:	IRG Members and Ideographic Experts
References:	Japan Activity Report (IRG N901), IPSJ-TS 0005:2002

### New Work Proposal for a basic subset of CJK Unified Ideographs

IRG has been focusing on the development of a series of extensions to the encoded repertoire of CJK Unified Ideographs. Now the standardization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> extension (CJK Unified Extension B) has completed, and the total number of CJK Unified Ideographs spans over 70,000. IRG has just started developing the 3<sup>rd</sup> extension – CJK Unified Ideographs Extension C which will add dozens of thousands of new ideographic characters to the former CJK extensions.

The efforts of developing the extensions are crucial in order to make sure all the necessary CJK ideographs are catalogued in ISO/IEC 10646. It would be, however, very hard for users to deal effectively with this huge collection without more detail information. For example, It will be difficult to find semantically equivalent ideographic characters from the huge set. Especially, for those communication devices that have only a very small footprint, it seems impossible to implement the whole CJK collection.

It would be very useful if there were a clarification on the minimum common repertoire to be implemented on such small information appliances in terms of both footprint and efficiency of information processing.

Japan believes that it's the time to start developing such a common and proper-size repertoire

from all of the existing CJK Unified Ideographs. At the same time enriching information on the semantic equivalency will be useful as well. Japan also believes that IRG should be the best place to discuss this issue and submit a new work item proposal to WG2 if a consensus is established among the IRG members.

For your information, IPSJ-TS 0005:2002(BUCS) enclosed in the Japan Activity Report was established in March, 2002. It is a new trial standard system endorsed by the Information Processing Society Japan. The trial standard BUCS is pursuing the same theme outlined in this document.

---