

JTC1/SC2/WG2/IRG

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(IRG)

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Activity Report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Adoption of ISO 10646

Since the 18th IRG meeting held in December 2001, matters relating to the adoption of the ISO 10646 standard in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) are as follows :

1. In December 2001, we released a new version of the Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set¹ (HKSCS), i.e. HKSCS-2001. The HKSCS - 2001 includes 116 new characters over the previous version of the HKSCS published in 1999. It also provides mapping of characters to the latest version of the ISO 10646 standard that was released by ISO in November 2001.

Out of these 116 new characters, 106 characters have already been included in the ISO 10646 standard, and 10 characters have been submitted to the IRG (9 submitted at the 17th IRG meeting and 1 at the 18th meeting) for inclusion into future releases of the ISO 10646 standard.

2. In accordance with the relevant resolution made at the 18th IRG meeting, the HKSAR Government has re-submitted a set of 29 characters from the HKSCS – 2001 to the IRG, in a format adopted at the 18th meeting, for inclusion into future releases of the ISO 10646 standard.
3. To promote the wider adoption of the ISO 10646 standard in the HKSAR, we continue to produce and distribute multi-media CD-ROMs and leaflets to educate the public about the functions and benefits of the ISO 10646 standard as part of our common Chinese language interface. We also take part in exhibitions and seminars to promote the ISO 10646 standard.

¹ The Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS) contains special Chinese characters used in the HKSAR that are not contained in the Big-5 standard character set. The latest version is the HKSCS-2001 published in December 2001. Details of the HKSCS-2001 are available on the web site: <http://www.digital21.gov.hk/eng/hkscs/index.html>.

Others

4. We published a set of Chinese character glyph guidelines (香港電腦漢字楷體字形參考指引 and 香港電腦漢字宋體(印刷體)字形參考指引) in February 2002.

The guidelines are developed by the Government in collaboration with the Chinese Language Interface Advisory Committee². The purpose of the guidelines is to encourage the industry to develop Chinese font products that adopt the local styles and conventions for the writing of Chinese characters, so as to facilitate the use of Chinese in handling electronic information by members of the public.

The guidelines are available in the web page (<http://www.info.gov.hk/digital21/chi/structure/glyph.html>) of the “Digital 21” Information Technology Strategy web site for viewing and free-of-charge download by the public and IT developers.

**Information Technology Services Department
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
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² The Chinese Language Interface Advisory Committee (CLIAC) was set up by the HKSAR Government in May 1999 comprising representatives from the academia, language and linguistics associations, and the IT and publishing industries. The CLIAC assists the HKSAR Government in developing an open and common Chinese language interface in the HKSAR which is based on the ISO 10646 standard and the HKSCS. Further information of the CLIAC is available on the web site: <http://www.digital21.gov.hk/eng/structure/cliac.html>.