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Ideographic Rapporteur Group

(IRG)

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Activity Report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Adoption of ISO 10646

Since the 26th IRG meeting held in mid 2006, matters relating to the adoption of the ISO 10646 standard in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) are as follows:

1. Four (4) characters had been preliminary accepted for inclusion into the Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS)¹. As the 4 characters already exist in the ISO 10646 standard, HKSAR will not submit them for inclusion in the standard. A list of newly accepted HKSCS characters is available at <http://www.info.gov.hk/digital21/eng/hkscs/applicn.html>.
2. The HKSAR Government has been developing a sample font and input software which supports the International Ideographs Core (IICORE) and HKSCS on feasible IT platform of resources-limited devices (some mobile phones, PDAs, etc). The objective is to encourage wider adoption of the ISO 10646 standard, in particular the IICORE for Chinese computing on mobile platforms in HKSAR. The sample font software, when completed later this year, will be posted onto the HKSAR Government website for public use.
3. The HKSAR Government has designed and developed an 'IICORE Comparison Utility' to promote the adoption of the IICORE. The function of the IICORE Comparison Utility is to compare/check

¹ The Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set (HKSCS) contains special Chinese characters used in the HKSAR that are not contained in the Big-5 character set. The latest version is the HKSCS-2004 available on the web site: www.digital21.gov.hk/eng/hkscs/index.html.

the Chinese contents of websites against the list of IICORE characters. Chinese characters not on the list of IICORE characters will be listed on an output report for webmasters' reference. In short, the Utility can be used by webmasters to ensure that the Chinese website can be accessed accurately by IICORE-compliant mobile devices. The IICORE Comparison Utility and user guide are now available at <http://www.info.gov.hk/digital21/eng/structure/iicorecompare.html>.

4. The HKSAR Government is developing a thematic website to further promote the adoption of ISO 10646 standard and the HKSCS for electronic communication in Chinese in the HKSAR. The website will provide suggested solutions to solve some typical 'miscoding' problems encountered in Chinese electronic data exchange (in particular miscoding in Chinese email and web browsing). The objectives are to provide some useful hints to public to further encourage the use of Chinese in electronic communication.
5. To further raise the awareness and adoption of the ISO10646 standard in the HKSAR, a multi-media CD-ROM with the latest development information of the ISO 10646 had been produced for distribution to public. Latest information of the IICORE had been included in the CD-ROM to encourage the adoption of the ISO 10646 standard on mobile platform.
6. Promotional leaflets to educate the public about the functions and benefits of the ISO 10646 standard as part of our common electronic Chinese language interface would be distributed in the ITU Telecom World 2006 to be held in HKSAR in December 2006.
7. Through sharing the responsibilities and collaborating with delegates of other IRG member bodies, the HKSAR team

completed the checking and provided comments on the CJK Extension C1 document for the development of the ISO 10646 standard.

**Office of the Government Chief Information Officer
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
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