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395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, CANADA
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ISO TC46/SC9 Secrétariat
Bibliothèque nationale du Canada
395, rue Wellington
Ottawa, CANADA
K1A 0N4

Telephone - Téléphone
(819) 994-6939
Fax : (819) 953-0291
E-mail: iso.tc46.sc9@nlc-bnc.ca

Web site: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/iso/tc46sc9/index.htm>

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2003-03-11

To: Leonardo Chiariglione, Convenor of ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29/WG 11

c.c. Yukiko Ogura, ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29 Secretariat
ISO/TC 46/SC 9/Working Group 1 (ISAN & V-ISAN)
P-members of ISO TC 46/SC 9 (for information)

From: Jane Thacker, ISO TC 46/SC 9 Secretary

Subject: **Liaison statement to ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29/WG 11 on a Proposed Corrigendum to ISO/IEC 13818-1, Amendment #1**

Dear Leonardo,

I am writing on behalf of ISO TC 46/SC 9 Working Group 1 which is responsible for developing the International Standard Audiovisual Number (ISAN) and which is currently developing ISO Project 20925 on a supplementary version identifier for audiovisual content, called the V-ISAN.

The purpose of this liaison statement is to request the cooperation of JTC 1/SC 29/WG 11 in ensuring that the ISAN and V-ISAN identifiers are fully accommodated in MPEG's technical specifications for the coding of audiovisual content.

The ISAN identifier for audiovisual works

The ISAN is a unique identifier which is permanently and unambiguously assigned to an audiovisual work registered in the global ISAN system. As such it serves the identification needs of the audiovisual community throughout the many stages involved in production, distribution and use of audiovisual works.

An ISAN is made up of 16 hexadecimal digits (A-F and 0-9) consisting of a 12-digit root segment followed by a 4-digit episode/part segment. A check digit is also appended when the ISAN is presented in human-readable form.

The ISAN standard was approved and published in November 2002 as ISO 15706. Implementation of the ISAN system is currently underway. The ISAN International

Agency in Geneva has been established as the Registration Authority for ISO 15706. Once the registration system is operational later this year, the ISAN system will provide a managed domain for the unique identification of audiovisual works.

The V-ISAN version identifier

The V-ISAN will be a supplementary identifier for the ISAN and will allow for the registration of different versions of an audiovisual work, including pointers to additional information about each version (e.g. metadata, different representations 4:3 or 16:9, etc.).

The format of the V-ISAN identifier has already been determined (in cooperation with SMPTE). A V-ISAN will consist of a registered ISAN followed by a version segment of 8 hexadecimal digits (0-9 and A-F). The procedures and registration model for the V-ISAN system are currently in preparation.

Incorporation of ISAN and V-ISAN in MPEG coding

The format of the ISAN will be a fixed length of 8 bytes. An additional 4 bytes are used for the V-ISAN segment, for a total of 12 bytes.

To maximize the usefulness of these identifiers, it is very important to have the ISAN and V-ISAN carried as metadata in the MPEG data stream. Therefore, ISO TC46/SC 9/WG 1 respectfully requests MPEG's consideration of the following proposal to address the inclusion of ISAN and V-ISAN in MPEG coding:

Proposed corrigendum to ISO/IEC 13818-1, Amendment #1

Reserve space in the meta_data_format table AMD1-2 to identify that the ISAN and V-ISAN identifier system is being used as follows:

Table AMD1-2 – Metadata_application_format

Value	Description
0x0000	ISAN
0x0001	V-ISAN
0x0002 – 0x00FF	reserved
0x0100 – 0xFFFF	user defined
0xFFFF	defined by the metadata_application_format_identifier field

This proposal was kindly authored for TC 46/SC 9/WG 1 by Mr. Peter Mulder in association with Mr. Mike Dolan.

On behalf of the ISAN and V-ISAN project group, thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We look forward to a positive response from the experts of JTC 1/SC 29/WG 11.

With regards,

[original signed by]

Jane Thacker
ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secretary
on behalf of ISO/TC 46/SC 9/WG 1