

**ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secretariat**

National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, CANADA
K1A 0N4

ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secrétariat

Bibliothèque nationale du Canada
395, rue Wellington
Ottawa, CANADA
K1A 0N4

Telephone - Téléphone
(1 819) 994-6939

E-mail: iso.tc46.sc9@nlc-bnc.ca

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

ISO/TC46/SC9 N 293
2000-07-31

**To: P-members of ISO/TC 46/SC 9
Organizations with A-liaison status**

cc. O-members of ISO/TC 46/SC 9
Chair of ISO/TC 46/SC 9
ISO Central Secretariat

**Subject: ISO Project 21047 for development of the "International
Standard Textual Work Code (ISTC)"**

ISO Project 21047 is to develop an International Standard Textual Work Code (ISTC) for the unique, international identification of textual works. The ISTC will provide a way for textual works to be uniquely distinguished from one another within computer applications and for the purposes of administering rights to such works in the digital information environment.

Background:

The ISTC project was originally approved in 1997 as part of Project 15707 for a generic International Standard Work Code (see N 224). After that initial approval, it was decided that Project 15707 should focus solely on an identifier for musical works and that the textual work identifier should be developed at a later date. Because the identification and rights administration for textual works involves a different set of interested parties, the Secretariat has prepared a separate project proposal for the ISTC in order to confirm the intended participation in this project.

Project proposal:

The project proposal for the International Standard Textual Work Code (ISTC) is given in document N 287. Members are requested to indicate their intentions regarding participation in this project by returning the form attached to that proposal.

Working Group proposal:

The ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secretariat also proposes to establish a Working Group (WG 3) to develop the ISTC project. The terms of reference for the proposed Working Group are given in document N 290. Organizations having either P-member or A-liaison status

with ISO/TC 46/SC 9 are invited to nominate experts to participate in this proposed Working Group.

The Secretariat is nominating Albert Simmonds (U.S.A.) as the Project Leader and Convenor for the ISTC Working Group. Dr. Simmonds has been an active participant in other ISO/TC 46/SC 9 identifier projects. He is a member of the U.S. National Information Standards Organization, a consultant to the ISBN Advisory Panel and formerly the director of the U.S. ISBN Agency. Dr. Simmonds is also Chairperson of the ad hoc project group that has developed the requirements for the ISTC project. Their outline of a working draft for the ISTC standard is given in document N 292. Upon formal establishment of Working Group 3, the ad hoc project group will be absorbed into Working Group 3 to continue development of the ISTC project.

Further information relating to Project 21047 is available on the ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Web site at: <<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/iso/tc46sc9/istc.htm>>.

ACTIONS REQUESTED:

- 1. P-members are requested to confirm their approval of and intention to participate in ISO Project 21047 by returning ISO Form 5 (attached to document N 287) to the ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secretariat by October 31, 2000.**
- 2. P-members are requested to approve the terms of reference and target dates for the proposed Working Group (WG 3) for ISO Project 21047 as stated in document N 290.**
- 3. P-members and liaison organizations are requested to nominate experts to participate in the proposed Working Group for the ISTC project. Nominations should be returned to the ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secretariat at the above address by October 31, 2000.**

I look forward to receiving your responses to these proposals.

With regards,

[original signed by]

Jane Thacker
ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secretariat

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- **SC 9 N 292:** Outline of the proposed ISTC standard (Draft 1.0);
- **SC 9 N 290:** Terms of reference and target dates for Working Group 3 for ISO Project 21047, including a nomination form for Working Group members;
- **SC 9 N 287:** Project proposal for the International Standard Textual Work Code, including a form for confirmation of the proposal;
- **SC 9 N 224:** New Work Item proposal for the generic International Standard Work Code (ISWC).
- **SC 9 N 231:** Voting results on the NWI proposal for an ISWC (Project 15707);
- **SC 9/WG 2 N 5 (item 7):** Recording the decision to develop the textual work identifier as a separate phase of the generic ISWC proposal;