Report of Task Group X3S3.3 to X3S3, 18 December 1990

Task group X3S3.3 met in Boulder, CO on December 4-6, 1990. The minutes of the meeting are contained in X3S3.3/90-363. A list of the output documents prepared by X3S3.3 at this meeting is attached to this report. X3S3.3 asks X3S3 to review and approve these documents, and to forward them to the listed destinations.

The task group recommends a vote of "YES" with no comments on defect report (and proposed draft amendment) 9542/001 (SC6/N6216), and on ISO 8073/DAM4 (Transport protocol enhancements). On the NP for a PICS proforma for ISO 10030 (SC6/N6215), the task group recommends a vote of "YES" on questions 1 through 5, and "NO" on questions 6 and 7, proposing in conjunction with question 5 Mr. DiIorio as editor. On the NP for an amendment to ISO 10030 covering SNARE-IS interactions (SC6/N6231), the task group recommends a vote of "YES" on questions 1 through 5 and question 7, and "NO" on question 6, proposing in conjunction with question 5 Mr. DiIorio as editor.

Pursuant to its five-year review of ANS X3.57-1986, "Structure for Formatting Message Headers for Information Exchange Using ASCII", X3S3.3 recommends that the standard be reaffirmed.

The task group recommends that ANS X3.140 be withdrawn in favor of the ISO standards 8072 (Transport service definition, with its Addendum 1 covering the connectionless Transport service) and 8073 (Transport protocol specification, with its Addendum 1 (Network Connection Management Subprotocol), Addendum 2 (covering operation of the Class 4 Transport protocol over the connectionless Network service), Amendment 3 (containing the PICS proforma), and Technical Corrigenda 1 through 3).

The new project proposals (SD-3s) covering the Internet protocols TCP, IP, ICMP, and UDP have been withdrawn, and will not be pursued by X3S3.3. The new project proposal for extensions to ISO 10589 to cover routing for both ISO 8473 and IP (the so-called "dual IS-IS") will be discussed at the next X3S3.3 meeting.

X3S3.3 nominates Mr. Walters, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. DiIorio as delegates to the joint SC6/WG2 and SC6/WG4 ad hoc meeting on lower layer security in Copenhagen on January 21-25, 1990.

During the Sydney meeting of SC6 and its working groups, Mr. Hsi-ming Lee accepted the job of editor for SC6 project 35.02 (Consolidation of OSI Transport Layer Standards).

Calling attention to SC6/N6316 and SC6 Sydney resolution 68, X3S3.3 reports that it has been unable to muster adequate support within the task group to sustain constructive participation in SC6 project 42 (Transport protocol conformance testing), including the Test Management Protocol, Transport Conformance Testing, Part 1 (General Principles), and Transport Conformance Testing, Part 4 (Abstract Test Suites and PIXIT). The task group has undertaken a liaison with the NIST OIW LLSIG to locate contributors to this work.

There appears to be a WG2 decision (see Sydney SC6 resolution 42) that PICS proformas will be processed as Parts to base standards. However, during the Sydney meeting there was by no means complete agreement among the participants and the SC6 Secretariat that this was in fact the official policy. X3S3.3 believes that such a policy would represent lunacy on a grand scale; every protocol standard would be a multi-part standard, contributing greatly (and unnecessarily) to the confusion of nomenclature and the slaughter of trees. The task group therefore asks X3S3 to work with X3 to propose an alternative, which would preserve the desired benefit (a way to release the PICS proforma from the ISO copyright that covers the balance of the protocol standard) without incurring the increase in confusion and complexity of the separate part method.

The next meeting of X3S3.3 will be held in Santa Monica, CA on February 5-7, 1991, in joint venue with X3S3.7. The meeting announcement and draft agenda are contained in X3S3.3/90-364.