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Report from ISO/TC 97/SC 22 WG 11, Language Bindings

to

The ISO/TC 97/SC 22 Plenary

8 September, 1987

WG 11 has had one meeting since the last SC 22 plenary. This took place in April 1987, and was attended by seven members from three countries. Future meetings are scheduled for October 1987 and April 1988.

Status of Work Items:

1. 22.14 - Language Binding Guidelines

At the April meeting, many changes were made to the base document and the document was revised after the meeting. At the October meeting, final changes will be made to the document, and it will be submitted as a technical report.

2. 22.16 - Common Procedure Calling Mechanism

At the April meeting, a proposed method of calling procedures written in different languages was suggested. Subsequent to the meeting, proposed syntax for FORTRAN, COBOL, Pascal, and C was circulated to the members of WG 11. At the October meeting, further refinements will be made to the model, and subsequent to the meeting it will be circulated to the SC 22 language committees for comment.

3. 22.17 - Common Data Types

At the April meeting, a set of common data types was suggested. Subsequent to that meeting, a strong suggestion was made that the types should be more abstract. This topic will be discussed at length at the October meeting.

Problems:

The liaison mechanism for reviewing the various language bindings to the graphics systems is not working. Only one comment has been submitted by a language committee, and it indicated that they did not have time for a thorough review. The basic problem seems to be that the language committees do not have time to review the binding documents. We do not have a solution for this problem. Perhaps this task should be eliminated.