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27 August 2007

Subject: INCITS Accessibility Study Group (ASG) Report to the September 2007 INCITS EB Meeting

From: Don Deutsch, ASG Vice Chair
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A. Accessibility Study Group Background

1. At its January 2005 meeting the INCITS Executive Board approved the proposed charter for the INCITS Accessibility Study Group (ASG) to develop US contributions and recommendations to the JTC1 Special Working Group on Accessibility (SWG-A).
2. Subsequently the Accessibility ASG convened 12 times in 2005. In 2006, the ASG convened 10 times: on February 17, March 3, March 7, April 21, May 12, June 16, July 14, July 28, August 18 and October 6.
3. In 2007 the ASG met via teleconference prior to the INCITS EB July 2007 meeting as follows:
 - a. 23 February
 - b. 2 March
 - c. 14 March
 - d. 2 April
 - e. 22 June

B. Participation

Representatives from AOL, Apple, Assistive Technology Association (ATIA), Auburn Engineers, HP, IBM, Inclusive Technologies, Information Technology Association (ITI), Lexmark, Microsoft, Oracle, SAP, Sony, TecAccess, TIA and W3C participated in the ASG meetings. All participant organizations had voting status except for W3C, which joined as an advisory member. HiSoftware was a prospective member, but never joined.

C. Activities Since the ASG Report to the INCITS EB July 2007 Meeting

1. Tom Albin responded to the call for a new ASG Chair; the INCITS EB ballot to approve this appointment closes on 29 September.
2. The ASG met once via teleconference since the last report to the INCITS EB on 10 August 2007. This meeting focused on reviewing the 3-part Proposed Draft Technical Report (PDTR), and determining US positions

for (and possible contributions to) the 29 August teleconference meeting of the SWG-A.

3. The ASG unanimously agreed to support the PDTR in toto. (The three parts are: User Needs Summary, Standards Inventory, and Guidance on User Needs Mapping.)
4. All Primary and Alternate ASG members were designated as delegates for the 29 August SWG-A teleconference meeting, and Tom Albin was approved as Head of Delegation.

D. Future ASG Activities

1. The SWG-A will meet via teleconference on 29 August from 12:00 - 14:00 GMT.
2. The ASG agreed to postpone scheduling future meetings until after the 29 August SWG-A teleconference meeting.