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Office Open XML fast-track status

ISO/IEC DIS 29500 (ECMA-376 fast-track) ballot closed; ITTF to offer instructions on the next phase of the process

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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This week-end marked an important milestone in the standards review process for ISO/IEC DIS 29500 (ECMA-376: Office Open XML), with the official closure of the fast-track ballot.

Ecma TC45 is encouraged by the strong level of participation from over 80 National Body members who have taken part in reviewing the specification during this step of the fast-track process.

As the process moves forward, TC45 will maintain active involvement by supporting the ISO/IEC DIS 29500 Editor, who will be tasked to produce a proposed disposition of all comments received during the ballot period.

Drawing upon the broad technical expertise of its members, TC45 also plans to address all comments submitted with the National Body ballots over the coming months during a review of potential improvements to this specification.

Within the next few days the ITTF will communicate the results of the preliminary votes received and offer instructions regarding the next phases. There are more phases to come:

- The preparation and the execution of the Ballot Resolution Meeting (BRM), currently scheduled for the last week of February 2008 in Geneva,
- the preparation of the so-called final DIS text, in the format that could also be used for publication by ISO/IEC,
- the preparation of the so-called disposition of comments report,
- and the formal conclusion and termination of the ballot.

We look forward to this communication, and continued collaboration with the ISO-, IEC-, and ISO/IEC JTC 1 National Body members for the betterment of the Ecma Office Open XML File Formats Standard.

About Ecma International

Since its inception in 1961, Ecma International (Ecma) has developed standards for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Consumer Electronics (CE). Ecma is a non-profit industry association of technology developers, vendors and users. Experts from industry and other organizations work together at Ecma to develop standards. Ecma submits its work for approval as ISO, IEC, ISO/IEC JTC 1 and ETSI standards and is a frequent practitioner of "fast tracking" of specifications through the standardization process in international standards organizations. Ecma publications can be downloaded free of charge from the Ecma International website www.ecma-international.org. The ECMA-376 standard can be found [there](#).

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