

ITU - Telecommunication Standardization Sector Temporary Document XX (WP 1/16)

STUDY GROUP 16

Geneva, 5 – 15 February 2002

Question(s): 14/16

SOURCE*: Rapporteur

TITLE: Communication from IETF FAX Working Group

CONTACT: Hiroshi Tamura (Co-chair of IETF FAX WG) Tel: +81-46-228-1743
Ricoh Co., Ltd. Fax: +81-46-228-7500
2446 Toda, Atsugi, Kanagawa, 243-0023, JAPAN E-mail: tamura@toda.ricoh.co.jp

Agreed by: FAX Working Group with Claudio Allocchio (Co-chair of IETF FAX WG)

This letter is to notify the current status of IETF FAX Working Group, with regard to TIFF-FX, Implementers Guide and Terminal Mode that ITU-T commented in the communication of SG16 meeting in June 2001.

1 TIFF-FX

Fax WG has been trying to move it to Draft Standard for long years. Last year there were IPR and compatibility issues that our group had to solve before that.

1.1 IPR

The IPR issue was claimed by Adobe (TIFF holder) about TIFF itself. Adobe was one of the contributors of TIFF-FX, but changed the stance for the use of TIFF. Fax WG and IESG (Internet Engineering Steering Group - managing WGs) asked IAB (Internet Architecture Board - IETF's oversight body) for consultation.

At the Dec. 2001 IETF meeting, IAB, ISEG and WG reached the consensus that Adobe's claims were regard as inconsistent with the records of the IETF meetings and the mailing lists of the WG. FAX WG agreed to the Draft Standard process, as usual.

As a matter of policy, the IESG does not evaluate IPR claims. There was some confusion about the nature of the claims and how to deal with the situation. The IESG and IAB consulted about this, and based on their evaluation of the situation, encouraged FAX WG to continue progressing the

<p>Attention: This is not a publication made available to the public, but an internal ITU-T Document intended only for use by the Member States of the ITU, by ITU-T Sector Members and Associates, and their respective staff and collaborators in their ITU related work. It shall not be made available to, and used by, any other persons or entities without the prior written consent of the ITU-T.</p>

documents and submit them for appropriate consideration to the IESG as soon as they appear to be ready, without delay due to IPR claims around TIFF.

1.2 Compatibility

The other issue is compatibility one for the use of image/tiff MIME content type for Profile J (JBIG), C (Color), L (JBIG color) and M (MRC) for some TIFF readers. Therefore, our group has decided to use two MIME content-types, the current image/tiff for Profile S (MH) and F (MR, MMR) and a new image/tiff-fx content-type for other Profiles, when transported by MIME.

The internet-draft "draft-ietf-fax-tiff-fx-reg-01.txt" describes the new content-type and the registration. Also, there are two internet-drafts: draft-ietf-fax-tiff-fx-11.txt (TIFF-FX specification itself) and draft-ietf-fax-tiff-regbis-04.txt (TIFF registration).

The IETF December meeting agreed that the target date for TIFF-FX to be approved as Draft Standard is September 2002. FAX WG is now trying to move the process.

Unfortunately, the T.37 distribution is suspended in the ITU-T web site. Fax WG understands that T.37 refer some related RFCs and there are some concerns about them. Fax WG, along with IESG and IAB, are now trying to resolve those issues. Our group believes that T.37 is valid.

Anyway, Fax WG will let ITU-T know the final result. Also, the reference should be changed after the new RFC documents are approved. At that time, our group will submit them to ITU -T.

2 Implementers Guide

The internet-draft was already approved by IESG and was in RFC-editors' queue (i.e. waiting for publication) before December meeting. But, as the above, our group has decided to use the two content-types for the file format. As the result, our group agreed that the use of content -types should also be described in the guide. Now, there is the updated internet-draft "draft-ietf-fax-implementers-guide-08.txt", which includes the description and refer "draft-ietf-fax-tiff-fx-reg-01.txt". The guide is still in RFC-editors' queue. The RFC number will be assigned along with "draft-ietf-fax-tiff-fx-reg-01.txt".

FAX WG understands that T.37 appendix will refer the Implementers Guide. After the RFC number is assigned, our group will submit it to ITU-T.

3 Terminal Mode

There are several internet-drafts that relate to Terminal Mode. But, unfortunately, there were no discussion for long months. As an IETF general rule, with few support, it cannot be standardized. Therefore, FAX WG dropped the discussion and removed it in our milestone.