C Panel Minutes of Meeting (88-5-10)

1. PRESENT

A list of those attending is appended at the end. Mick Farmer and Chris Whitfield were unable to attend and sent their apologies.

1.1 DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE MEETING

Several documents were circulated to members of the panel since the last meeting; those discussed at the meeting were -

C91 - Minutes of last meeting

C94 - Letter to Plauger

C96 - Agenda and BSI paper on C Validation Suite

C100 - Alan Mycroft's Comments on X3.159-198x

C101 - Plauger's Letter and Agenda for WG14

C102 - N463 Summary of Voting on DP9899

2. MINUTES

There were no objections to the minutes of the last meeting.

3. ISO WG14 and IST/5 - PROGRESS REPORTS

It was reported that no reply to C94 had been received although Bill Plauger had circulated it as an ISO WG document. Cornelia Boldyreff recounted discussions with the Danish members of WG14 who felt that the ISO Comments circulated as C80/C88 were not properly presented as agreed resolutions of the last meeting of WG14. This is reflected in the Danish NO vote.

The Panel's request to IST/5 that the C DIS be published as a BSI DPC was approved at the March meeting of IST/5.

Under this item, John Souter gave an unofficial report from Tom Plum of the X3J11 meeting in April. Apparently C100 was processed at the meeting; and Bill Plauger is preparing an official reply to C94. The committee has dropped "noalias" and made over twenty other changes; as a consequence, there will be a third public review of one month on the changes only. To facilitate public comment in the UK Derek Jones agreed to diff the January draft and the new draft; and circulate the output to panel members. Cornelia Boldyreff agreed to Contact Bill Plauger as ISO convenor to ensure that we received the new draft in hard copy and on disk as soon as possible.

4. LIAISON WITH OTHER STANDARDS COMMITTEES AND PANELS
There was nothing of substance to report. The popular press has been trying
to stir up news by claiming that the POSIX and C standards are incompatible;
Cornelia Boldyreff had informed them that these standards committees at
both national and international levels had well established liaisons.

5. BSI C VALIDATION

John Souter answered questions on his paper; and outlined the BSI approach to pricing and updates. He also gave details of the European Validation Service being established in collaboration with France and Italy. As with other Validation services offered by the BSI, there will be a C Validation Review Group established; this will be similar in membership to the C Panel consisting of members interested in C Validation.

There was some broarder discussion on the issue of ensuring compiler quality and Charlie Moore raised the issue of product standards being of more value if the producer has also passed some relevant process standard, eg ISO9000.

John Souter announced that the BSI was planning a launch of the CVS in September at which Tom Plum would speak. It was agreed that the work of the panel should also be publicised at this launch seminar. If the DIS is available as a BSI DPC, it could be made available at this seminar. The dates under consideration are 15/16 Sept 1988.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. Preparation for London meeting of WG14 - 88-6-13/14
Cornelia Boldyreff agreed to request a minor modification to the agenda: addition of item 3.1 Review of Response to WG14 Comments submitted to X3J11 by Bill Plauger at the Dec 87 Meeting of X3J11. It was agreed that Derek Jones would replace Paul Neale as the second UK delegate to WG14. It was also agreed that we offer to chair the meeting; and if possible persuade the French to minute the meeting. Cornelia Boldyreff agreed to collate a Panel paper detailing outstanding issues to be addressed at the ISO meeting.
b. Library Comments

Dave Furber presented four outstanding library issues; and agreed to e-mail relevant notes for inclusion in the Panel's above paper. Geoff Streeter agreed to supply additional material on Signal Handling to suppliment the request for further clarification on signal handlers. c. Document circulation

John Souter raised the difficulty of his organisation continuing to copy and distribute documents especially the problem of invoicing members for small amounts. It was agreed that John would continue to maintain the mailing list and document register; and that anyone wishing to circulate a document would obtain a set of labels and a document reference number from him. It was agreed that any panel members failing to pay their recent BSI invoices should be dropped from the mailing list. There is likely to be a new draft available in the near future; and Derek Jones volunteered to get it copied and distributed to members at cost.

A. ATTENDANCE LIST

Name
Cornelia Boldyreff
Charlie W Moore
Geoff Streeter
Derek Jones
David Furber
John Souter

Representing
BCS/Brunel University
British Telecom
Dyadic Systems
Knowledge Software
Kings College
BSI C&A S

Cornelia Boldyreff 12 May 1988