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ISO JTC1/SC22/WG14/N502

ANSI X3J11/95-103

ANSI X3T2/95-046

Response to X3J11 (C Language) Comments on ISO/IEC DIS 13886

X3T2 thanks X3J11 for its review of ISO/IEC DIS 13886 (LIPC).

We agree that a 4-day review period is unacceptably short. X3 procedures seem to need revision in this area. Unfortunately, X3 required us to recommend a U.S. Position even earlier than that! Our recommendation (delivered before we received your comments) was to approve the DIS.

The clarity of the text of this standard does leave much to be desired. This is due to the lack of an editor in recent months. The choice seems to be to approve the draft as is or to scrap the project.

LIPC is intended to provide a model for procedure calling that is capable of defining

- (1) intra-procedure calling in many languages,
- (2) local cross-procedure calling, and
- (3) remote calling.

This means that any particular calling service would likely provide only a subset of the capabilities that are describable in the LIPC model.

There is also no need to assume that only one service semantics would be provided for a single language.

The negotiation requirements you mention are a service issue, not a model issue, and are properly ignored by LIPC. For example, LIPC can describe full recursion, but a particular service may not allow it.

Likewise, data representations at the two ends of a communication are also service issues and are properly ignored by LIPC and LID. LIPC can describe full recursion, but a particular service may not allow it.

Likewise, data representations at the two ends of a communication are also service issues and are properly ignored by LIPC and LID. LIPC deals solely with the abstract interface. Data representation, alignment, byte-ordering, and so on are issues for the concrete interface, and are (mostly) local issues.