ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 3
7-bit and 8-bit codes and their extension
SECRETARIAT : ELOT

DOC TYPE :	National Body Contribution
TITLE :	Comments Received on SC 2 N 2958, Application for Registration No. 202, DPRK Standard Korean Graphic Character Set for Information Interchange
SOURCE :	National Bodies of Republic of Korea and Greece
PROJECT:	--
STATUS :	The attached comments have been forwarded to D.P.R of Korea for consideration. After resolution of comments, IR 202 will be registered
ACTION ID :	FYI
DUE DATE :	--
DISTRIBUTION :	P, O and L Members of ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2 WG Conveners, Secretariats WG 3 Members ISO/IEC JTC 1 Secretariat ISO/IEC ITTF
MEDIUM :	P
NO OF PAGES :	5

KNITQ KOREAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY AND QUALITY   **TELEFAX** Pages(total) : 3

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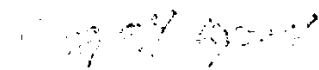From : Oh-Kyoon Bang   Date : Nov. 27. 1997

Dear Madam,

RE : Comments on JTC1/SC2 N2958

Enclosed you will find our comments regarding ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2 N2958 "Application for Registration   No. 202, DPRK Standards Korean Graphic Character Set for Information Interchange" reviewed by Korea SC2 Secriteriat, Prof. Kyongsok Kim.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Oh-Kyoon Bang
Director

1997.12.03

Subject: Comments regarding ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2 N2958
(1997-08-20) - Application number 202

We reviewed "DPRK Standard KPS 9566 - 97: Code of
Korean Graphic Character Set for Information Interchange -
Application number 202" and would like to make the
following comments.

1. We are a little bit concerned about the fact that some
syllables are included twice or three times. We would like
to emphasize that this comment is based solely on the
technical ground and therefore hope that DPRK also review
this comment technically.

1.1 Multiple code positions for some syllables

  1) Syllable 김 (GIM) appears in
    - row 17/column 14,
    - row 4/column 72, and
    - row 4/column 75

  2) Syllable 일 (IL) appears in
    - row 43/column 46,
    - row 4/column 73, and
    - row 4/column 77

  3) Syllable 성 (SEONG) appears in
    - row 26/column 34 and
    - row 4/column 74

  4) Syllable 정 (JEONG) appears in
    - row 28/column 19 and
    - row 4/column 79

1.2 Possible Technical Problems
     1) This multiplicity might cause a technical ambiguity.
     2) For each of the four syllables, the first code
position belongs to Korean syllables, whereas the other one
or two code positions belong to "general graphic

characters". It seems somewhat confusing too.

3) Therefore, we suggeest that DPRK and other experts review this situation and, if necessary, modify the proposal. We are willing to participate in such a reivew process.

1.3 Suggested Solutions

If it is concluded that the current situation needs be fixed, we can think of the following solutions.

1) Retain only one code position for each of the four syllables and leave the other code positions unused.

2) Assign only one code position for the three syllables, " 김일성 " (GIM IL SEONG), as a whole. In other words, one code position accommodates three syllables as one unit. The same applies to " 김정일 (GIM JEONG IL)".

2. 65 letters of Korean alphabet (Row 4/Columns 1-65)

1) These letters contain consonantal and vowel letters.

2) However, in ISO/IEC 10646-1, the block of Hangul letters (code positions 1100-11FF) contains syllable-initial, syllable-peak, and syllable-final letters.

3) Considering that ISO/IEC 10646-1 is already an International Standard and will be widely used in the future, we suggest that DPRK review the possibility of including a set of syllable-initial, syllable-peak, and syllable-final letters instead of a set of consonantal and vowel letters.

*   *   *   *

ΣΕΛΟΤ

COMMENTS ON ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/N2958

The Greek Final sigma (s) is missing and it is a very-widely used character.

Please add this character in any place you feel appropriate.

It exists as a small letter only.

Athens, 1997-12-01

pp. K. Velli

E. MELAGRAKIS
EDP & INFO CENTER

ΣΕΛΟΤ