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## Austin Group Status Update – June 1, 2001

**by Andrew Josey**

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The Austin Common Standards Revision Group (CSRG) is a joint technical working group established to consider the matter of a common revision of ISO/IEC 9945-1, ISO/IEC 9945-2, IEEE Std 1003.1, IEEE Std 1003.2, and the appropriate parts of the Single UNIX Specification.

The eighth meeting of the joint technical working group informally known as the Austin Group was held at The Open Group facility in Reading, England, on May 29 – June 1, 2001. The meeting had 12 attendees (three via teleconference).

It was reported that Draft 6 had passed its IEEE ballot, achieving 90% approval. At the ISO level, Draft 6 has been submitted as a second FCD ballot. The Open Group, having achieved consensus, plans to synchronize the final approval with that of the IEEE Standards Board (targeted for September 12, see below).

The objective of this meeting was to review the Draft 6 specifications. A three-and-a-half day plenary session was held. Over 350 change requests were processed.

The most complex issue was resolving the wording to allow profiling of this standard. This was tackled via several teleconferences with interested parties during the meeting. The other main issue that was raised was the omission of the sockatmark() function, which is referenced in section 2.10.12 of XSH (Socket Out of Band data), but not included in the draft. The review group decided to canvass the opinion of the balloters to see if the inclusion of sockatmark()

would decrease consensus. If not then it is proposed to include the sockatmark() function in Draft 7, as per the consistency caveat in the project scope. The minutes and documents Austin/SD1, Austin/SD2 should be read for further details.

The final draft (Draft 7) will be made available around June 15th and will include the changes identified by the review of Draft 6. Due to the workings of the IEEE ballot process, this draft may be re-circulated twice more for 10-day review (to allow any new objections to be re-circulated to the IEEE ballot group). The purpose of the Draft 7 review is to ensure that all changes identified have been applied correctly.

The Draft 7 review is scheduled for the second half of June 2001 (exact date to be determined) and will be available for a 10-day review period, with a concurrent 10-day re-circulation IEEE ballot. There will be strict narrowing-down rules enforced for the comments on Draft 7. Discussions on Draft 7 will occur via teleconference. The final document will be submitted to the IEEE on July 29 for consideration at the September 12 IEEE Standards Board meeting, and the September 12 meeting of The Open Group Platform Board.