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U.S. Contribution on Technical Directions

The United States believes that JTC 1 should review the original purpose and the current results of creating Technical Directions within JTC 1 to determine if Technical Directions should be eliminated.

The United States believes that Technical Directions have not served JTC 1's purposes well. Technical Directions were originally intended as a marketing tool to explain JTC 1's program of work externally, and not as an additional layer of administration. The existence of Technical Directions as they have been implemented, however, in at least the case of the CLAUI TD has resulted in additional meetings, consumption of valuable resources which must come from the SCs themselves, has created disagreement between the member SCs, and allowed for turf battles between SCs within the TD. Furthermore, in the case of CLAUI, we feel that JTC 1 has repeatedly stated the position that attention to CLAUI issues is the responsibility of all JTC 1 Subcommittees in the development of their work.

The current implementation of Technical Directions can be better addressed with cross-SC coordination mechanisms and ad hoc groups at JTC 1 Plenaries if necessary, without the drain on JTC 1 and SC resources required to support the existence of the TDs. Finally, the marketing issues originally intended to be addressed by Technical Directions are better dealt with as a component of the Long Range Business Plan.



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