The Austin Common Standards Revision Project
http://www.opengroup.org/austin/
PASC SEC N736
Andrew Josey
The POSIX Revision

- A new collaboration is underway to develop a replacement for the core POSIX specifications during the next 3 to 5 years
- Participants include IEEE PASC, WG15 and The Open Group.
- The joint group informally known as the “Austin Group”
About the Austin Group

• A joint technical working group considering 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

• Presently the PASC participation is via a Study Group
The Austin Group - Inaugural Meeting Participants

• Bull
• Compaq
• DKUUG
• Florida State University
• HP
• IBM
• John Hopkins University
• Mount Bonnell
• SCO
• Softway Systems
• Sun
• The Open Group
• Dept of Defense
• USENIX
Initial Participation

• Balanced participation between TOG and PASC
  – 17 attendees, 14 Organizations
  – 9 PASC SEC members

• Has produced an initial technical recommendation

• Group documents and meeting minutes are at http://www.opengroup.org/austin/
Proposed Work -(See ALSO Long scope and diagrams)

• Propose to target the joint specification more at the programmer / user rather than the system implementor

• Organisation to be based on the Core volumes of the Single UNIX Specification, and to be organised alphabetically, but also to include Rationale

• Aim for the project is to produce a new standard in the year 2001.
The New Common Specification
Challenges

• A joint project has some interesting challenges to be overcome
  – working procedures
  – balloting procedures, etc
  – cooperation, IPR issues

• These are *Gating factors* to proceeding with this project.
The Way Ahead?

• Technically the outline and a draft PAR are prepared, we need also to address
  – detailed document structure outline, table of contents
  – sample pages for style layout
  – When? Some discussions are expected to occur on the Austin list very shortly about when/if to submit a PAR
How You Can Help?

• To participate in the Austin Group, send email to
  – austin-group-request@.opengroup.org with the word subscribe in the subject line

• Participate in future meetings, expect up to four in 1999. Anticipate at least two in sync with PASC meetings.