

The Austin Common Standards Revision Project

<http://www.opengroup.org/austin/>

PASC SEC N736

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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.