Ecma International Policy on Submission, Inclusion and Licensing of Software

Experimental TC39 Policy

This Ecma International Policy on Submission, Inclusion and Licensing of Software ("Policy") is being implemented on an experimental basis to address specific issues which have arisen and are arising in TC39.

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance, rules and procedures relating to the submission, inclusion and licensing of Software that is proposed to be part of an Ecma International Standard.¹

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Individual and Collaboratively Developed Submissions

The guidance, rules and procedures described herein are applicable to both submissions of Software by individual submitters and submissions of Software that is developed collaboratively by two or more submitters.

¹ Ecma International Standards hereafter means Ecma International Standards as well as Ecma Technical Reports.
Policy

1.1 Definitions.

For purposes of the Policy “Software” means imperative or declarative programming instructions in a formally defined language that can be processed by hardware that manipulates data according to such programming instructions. Pseudo Code (defined below) is also considered Software under this Policy. Software may be Normative or Non-Normative. Software is **Normative Software** where it is required to be implemented in products or services which implement the Standard. Software is **Non-Normative Software** where it is not required to be implemented in products or services which implement the Standard. Non-Normative Software may include example implementations, software for diagnostic or conformance testing, etc.

**Pseudo Code or Descriptive Code** means code that is human readable and similar to programming languages but that cannot be directly processed by hardware that manipulates data according to instructions.

1.2 Guidelines and Rules

Ecma International strongly believes that an Ecma International Standard should define requirements and not mandate any specific implementation. This gives implementers the opportunity to differentiate their implementations which, in turn, encourages innovation. Since Normative Software may, in effect, mandate an implementation, the use of Normative Software in Ecma International Standards should be limited to situations where it is necessary to enable interoperability. Ecma International has no objection to the inclusion of Non-Normative Software in Ecma International Standards.

If Software is included in an Ecma International Standard, copyrights in such Software must be assigned to Ecma International (at the time the Standard in which it is incorporated becomes a final Ecma International Standard) and Ecma International will make the Software available pursuant to the copyright license set forth on Exhibit A (“License”). Patent claims on the Software that are required to implement the Standard are subject to the Ecma International Code of Conduct in Patent Matters. See the Ecma Code of Conduct in Patent Matters for information regarding the licensing of patent claims that are required to implement Ecma International standards ([http://www.ecma-international.org/memento/codeofconduct.htm](http://www.ecma-international.org/memento/codeofconduct.htm)).

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2 Some familiar types of “Codes” (just for explanation, but not for the purpose of this policy):

“**Source Code**” means Software expressed using a formal language that is able to be read and understood by humans (e.g. C++ source code, JavaScript code, assembly language listings, XML data sets, HTML page descriptions, tabular instructions etc.).

“**Object Code**” or **“Binary Code”** means Software expressed using a formal language that cannot be easily or directly read or understood by humans (e.g., binary machine code, obfuscated script code, machine generated postscript page descriptions, binary-encoded commands, etc.).
1.3 Procedures

In the event a TC desires to include Software in an Ecma International Standard, the following procedure shall apply.

(1) Software submissions are accepted only when submitted with a properly completed Software Submitter Contribution Form (See Exhibit B). Only one Software Submitter Contribution Form is required to be completed by each Software Submitter for each Standard to which a Software Submitter makes a Software submission and applies to all subsequent software submissions to that Standard (even if the Software Submitter makes multiple Software submissions with respect to that Standard). Each party to a joint Software Submission must complete a Software Submitter Contribution Form.

(2) Ecma will provide a license to the Software pursuant to the Software License set forth on Exhibit A if the Software is incorporated in an Ecma International Standard.

(3) The following legend or notice, together with the license, will be prominently displayed on any Ecma International Standard in which Software is included: “SOFTWARE, AS DEFINED IN THE ECMA INTERNATIONAL POLICY ON SUBMISSION, INCLUSION AND LICENSING OF SOFTWARE AVAILABLE AT http://www.ecma-international.org/memento/softwarecopyrightpolicy.htm (“POLICY”), WHICH IS INCLUDED IN AN ECMA INTERNATIONAL STANDARD SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE PURSUANT TO THE LICENSE SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT A (“LICENSE”) OF THE POLICY.”
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EXHIBIT B

SOFTWARE SUBMITTER CONTRIBUTION FORM

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Name and address of Copyright Owner(s) (“Software Submitter”): ____________________________

Name and address of person making the submission: ____________________________

Title of person making the submission: _________________________________________

Standard including version (Edition) number for which the Software is being submitted: ______

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C. Software Submitter (check either #1 or #2)

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Attachment 1

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