Minutes of the: 1st meeting of the new Ecma TC39 (formerly TC39-TG1)

held in: Mountain View, USA (venue 2008/001)

on: 24-25 January 2008

Chairman ad interim: Mr. B. Eich (Mozilla Foundation)
Vice-Chairman: Vacancy
Secretary: Mr. J. Neumann (President Ecma International)
Attending:
- Mr. E. Arvidsson (Google) arv@google.com
- Mr. D. Crockford (Yahoo!) crock@yahoo-inc.com
- Mr. J. Dyer (Adobe Systems) jodyer@adobe.com
- Mr. B. Eich (Mozilla Foundation) brendan@mozilla.org
- Mr. C. Flanagan (UC Santa Cruz) cormac@ucsc.edu
- Mr. G. Garen (Apple) ggaren@apple.com
- Mr. L. Hansen (Adobe Systems) lhansen@adobe.com
- Mr. W. Horwat (Google) waldemar@google.com
- Mr. S. Isaacs (Microsoft)
- Mr. C. Jackson (Stanford University) collinj@cs.stanford.edu
- Mr. P. Lakshman (Microsoft) pratap@microsoft.com
- Mr. M. Miller (Google) erights@gmail.com
- Mr. J. Neumann (Ecma)
- Mr. C. Pine (Opera Software) chrispi@opera.com
- Mr. J. Shapiro (Adobe Systems) shapiro@adobe.com
- Mr. M. Stachowiak (Apple) mjs@apple.com
- Mr. A. Wirfs-Brock (Microsoft) allen.wirfs-brock@microsoft.com
- Mr. K. Zyp (Dojo Foundation) kris@sitepen.com

1 Opening, welcome and roll call

1.1 Introductions
The Chairman Mr. B. Eich opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates of this first historic meeting of the new TC39 (after the Ecma GA decision in December 2007 to split up the old TC39 in two parts). A Roll call of delegates was made. Participants of the meeting have introduced themselves.

1.2 Host facilities
The host, Google has provided logistical information on the meeting arrangements and facilities.
1.3 Dinner arrangements
The Host has kindly invited TC39 for a dinner reception in Sunnyvale.

1.4 Lunch
Lunch was provided in local facility.

2 Adoption of the agenda
Agenda was adopted as presented (Ecma/TC39/2008/003). The public part of the minutes will be posted on the web at http://wiki.ecmascript.org/doku.php?id=meetings:minutes_jan_24_2008.

3 Approval of the minutes of January 15th, 2008
The Minutes of the last meeting in November 2007 (San Francisco) have been approved as presented. The final version will be sent to the Ecma Secretariat in Geneva for posting on the Ecma document server.

4 TC39 restructuring report
Mr Neumann gave a brief summary of the history behind TC39 restructuring and its current role as a TC. The Ecma process was briefly described so that all attendees understand the process. Role of TC, CC, and GA described as well as voting within the TC and GA.

4.1 Selection of the Chairman
Microsoft and Adobe jointly announced that they were supporting Mr. Neumann as chairman candidate of TC39 for the coming year. The official election will occur at next meeting in March 2008, and a separate agenda point will be set up.

5 Official status of http://ecmascript.org
The status of ecmascript.org has been discussed. This website is for public information on the activities about EcmaScript. It has been decided to place this link on the external web site of Ecma - if it is not already there. It probably should be accessible from the private web site also. The Ecma Secretariat is requested to check this.

6 Secure ECMAScript Project
There was a lengthy discussion on a new project for a secure EcmaScript. It was agreed that it was a new scripting language and that there was not yet a design or approach on the table. It was suggested that there should be an announced public design competition to arrive at the design for the new language. Upon further discussion, Mr Neumann pointed out that this is not the normal way that Ecma Committees worked, and that standards were developed based on existing products or implementations in the market, and that Ecma was not an R&D organization.

Mr Neumann also expressed concern about IPR and Anti-Trust issues that naturally arise when “public” competition for a design approach is held. Mr Neumann mentioned that he would explore the possibilities with Ecma Management to see what could be done by Ecma International to help facilitate this activity since it was agreed that it is needed urgently in the market, and if not done here, then do somewhere else.

7 Project editor’s report
None.
8 Open issues
Discussion of ES3.1 goals and relationships with ES4. See wiki for definition of ES3.1 (http://wiki.ecmascript.org/doku.php?id=es3.1:es3.1). TC39 targets to get a release by end of the year (2008). This is consistent with the time schedule for ES4, and plan is that ES3.1 will be a subset of ES4. The content of ES4 will have been implemented and tested or it will not be included in the final release. Reflector by lhansen@adobe.com.

NOTE
Mr Neumann came to the conclusion that the right way to do these two projects is to create ONE specification with conformance classes that are equivalent to ES3.1 and ES4 since 3.1 is equivalent subset of 4. He will discuss this with the individuals on the committee that have vested interest in one or the other implementations (Microsoft and Adobe).

9 Technical topics
9.1 Tickets #308, #309, 240, 317, 323, 347, 276, 348
No technical discussion at this meeting. There was instead an agreement to do technical development during the teleconference meetings and document review during the face-to-face meetings every two months.

10 Any other business
Teleconference on Tuesdays at 12:00 call in 866 705 2554, participant pass code: 548041

11 Date and place of the next meeting(s)
Schedule moved to every two months. Next scheduled in Mountain View on March 27 – 28th, May 29 – 30 (San Francisco), July 23 – 25 (Oslo), September 24 – 26 (Redmond)

10 Closure
Meeting ended around 4 PM on Friday. The Chairman thanked the delegates for their hard work, the Host Google for the excellent meeting facilities and the splendid Social Event.