TC39 Chairman’s Report

October 2010

Title: TC39 ECMAScript
Prepared by: John Neumann
Date: October 6, 2010

1 Officers of the TC
   Chair: John Neumann (Microsoft, Yahoo, Mozilla)
   Vice Chair: Vacant

2 Executive summary

The TC continues to follow it’s roadmap for evolution of the ECMAScript Language. ES 5 has completed balloting within SC 22 and received one NO vote from Japan. We are currently completing the Disposition of Comments and revised draft. Both will be submitted to SC 22 by the end of November. It has been agreed that this fast-track will be completed using the old rules for fast-track since this started before the new rules were agreed.

A new project was started under an ad hoc that will work mostly by email and face to face when required in conjunction with regularly scheduled TC39 meetings. The first meeting of the ad hoc will be on November 16th just before next TC39 meeting. (See TC39/053 for project description).

TC39 is currently developing a set of tests (to be published as a Technical Report when complete) against the ES 5 specification. These tests are contributed by the members under the Software Licensing Policy approved by the Ecma GA. While this is still work in progress, TC39 members are applying these tests to their Industry browser implementations to ascertain the degree that they correctly implement the ES 5 specification, and have agreed to put the results of those tests on the ecmascript.org site (in a way similar to the one W3C has adopted for HTML 5). See a prototype at http://es5test.ep.interop.msftlabs.com.

3 Standards & Technical Reports to be submitted to the General Assembly and fast-track processing in JTC 1.

None

4 Future outlook

A future edition of ECMAScript is tentatively planned for December 2013. A Technical Report that contains the test tools used during this release cycle is planned for late 2011. A separate library standard addressing internationalization issues has been agreed within TC39 and will likely be complete in the 2012 time frame. This is being developed within TC39 as an ad hoc activity that will be managed by the committee and status reported at each meeting of the full committee.
5 Decisions and issues recommended to be raised to the next General Assembly
None.

6 Meetings history and plans
Past meetings:
May - Google
July - Microsoft
September - Mozilla
Future meetings:
November 2010 - Apple
January 2011 - Bay Area (Yahoo!?)
March 2011 - Bay Area (Mozilla?)
May 2011 - Bay Area (UCSC?)

7 TC details
The TC has begun shifting its focus toward a future edition of the standard and addressing a Technical Report as a repository for Interoperability tests being used during this release cycle (see also 2 above).
ECMAScript Edition 5, revision 1 (aligned with ISO text) will be sent to the June 2011 General Assembly for approval.

8 Cooperation with JTC 1
8.1 ECMAScript
Edition 5 has completed fast-track ballot by JTC 1. BRM should take place no later than January 2011.

8.2 Current active liaisons
None,

8.3 Expecting fast-track for this reporting period and for the next reporting period
None

9 Other issues (if any)
TC39 continues to reach out to W3C to determine interest in further joint meetings. This would represent the second time that the two groups have met jointly and would discuss items of mutual interest. We have sent proposed agenda items for their review and discussion. Since they meet in November in Europe, we expect some response from them that we can discuss in our November meeting.