

## TC39 Chairman's Report to the Co-ordinating Committee

October 1997

There have been five TC39 meetings, two since the last GA:

- First: Mountain View, CA, USA on 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1996
- Second: Cupertino, CA, USA, on 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> January 1997
- Third: Cupertino, CA, USA, on 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> March 1997
- Forth: Mountain View, CA, USA, on 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> July 1997
- Fifth: Nice, France, 16<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1997

The schedule has been:

- 1<sup>st</sup> draft: January 1997
- Stable draft: early March 1997
- Final draft: April 1997
- GA vote: June 1997
- Acceptance of name of standard by CC: Sept 1997
- Fast-track submission to ISO/IEC JTC 1: Oct 1997
- Publication as ISO Standard: Spring 1998

The Scope and Programme of Work of TC39 was accepted by June 1997 GA:

### Scope

To standardise the syntax and semantics of a general purpose, cross platform, vendor-neutral scripting language.

### Programme of Work

- 1) Develop a scripting language standard, based on initial submissions by Netscape, Microsoft and Borland.
- 2) Contribute the ECMAScript Standard to ISO/IEC JTC1.
- 3) Upon completion of 1, to investigate the further direction of the ECMAScript Standard, and to evaluate and consider proposals for complementary or additional technology.
- 4) To maintain liaison with appropriate other ECMA TCs and TGs.

### Officers

Chairman: G. Robinson (Sun)  
Vice-Chairman: C. Cargill (Netscape)  
Vice-Chairman: S. Wiltamuth (Microsoft)  
Project editor: Guy Steele (Sun)

ECMA-262 was approved at the June 1997 GA with the inclusion of a group of minor editorial corrections. There was also considerable discussion on the name of the standard and the impact on trademarks.

At the fifth meeting of TC39 in Nice it was decided to recommend to the CC that the name be ECMAScript and therefore the title would be "ECMAScript: A general purpose, cross-platform programming language".

It was also unanimously agreed that the 'Brief History' will refer to JavaScript™ and JScript™ as originating technologies for ECMA-262.

The ECMA office will also forward the document to JTC1 for fast-track.

Work is now underway on the next revision of ECMA-262, but at a much slower pace than for version 1. A Web site would be set up to collect comments from anybody as additional input to version 2.

The time of the next meeting of TC39 will be set as a result of editing meetings that are occurring on a monthly basis.

G. Robinson ((Sun)

Chairman TC39