

## TC39 TG1 E4X Meeting Notes 2003-07-15

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| <b>Date</b>         | July 15, 2003 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM<br>July 16, 2003 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM<br>July 17, 2003 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM                        |
| <b>Location</b>     | Macromedia Inc.<br>600 Townsend Street, Floor 5<br>San Francisco, CA 94103  |
| <b>Convener</b>     | Rok Yu (Microsoft)  |
| <b>Editor</b>       | John Schneider (BEA/AgileDelta)   |
| <b>Participants</b> | Jeff Dyer (Macromedia)<br>John Schneider (BEA/AgileDelta)<br>Michael Shenfield (RIM)<br>Rok Yu (Microsoft)<br>Waldemar Horwat |

### Schedule

AOL/Netscape will no longer be participating in ECMA and Waldemar can no longer act as Editor for E4. Given the resource constraints, the working group has agreed to postpone all work on E4 to focus on getting E4X finished as soon as possible.

The working group is still about one meeting behind schedule. This has been because of the quantity of design associated with namespaces. The gating factors remain the namespace details and issues list.

The working group will proceed with the following set of checkpoints and meetings.

| Date             | Location        | Goal   |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| July 25          | Conference call | Checkpoint meeting to decide what specifications will be submitted at October TC39 meeting.                    |
| August 20        | Checkpoint      | First draft incorporating namespace issues   |
| August 22        | Conference call | Review issues with August 18 draft<br>Work through open issues   |
| August 28        | Checkpoint      | Detailed draft complete. All algorithms must be fully specified to the point where they should be unambiguous. |
| September 4, 5   | Redmond, WA     | Review issues with August 28 draft<br>Close all remaining issues   |
| September 22     | Checkpoint      | Final draft all text completed   |
| September 29, 30 | Dillington, UK  | Last minute editorial revisions  |

The goal for this meeting is to get all the major namespace details decided and to triage the issues list. This will give members time to implement a prototype for the August meeting. The August 20 and September 2 drafts of the spec will allow members to iterate their prototypes as the specification is refined.

While the October TC39 meeting continues to be the target date for completion of E4X, the working group recognizes that the schedule remains aggressive and that we will likely need to submit via a postal ballot.

## Namespace User Model

The working group worked through use cases presented by John to come to finalize the namespace user model. Please review the Namespace user model text document for details.

## Issues List

The working group made a pass at all the items on the issues list. Please review the E4X issues spreadsheet for details.

## Xml Initializers

Rok wants to get agreement on the behavior of substitutions in XML literals. The working group discussed XML initializers and substitutions and came to the following decisions.

1. The scanner needs to recognize the punctuator sequences for PI, CDATA, comments, tags ("`<`" followed by an optional "`/`" followed by a NAMECHAR or left curly). In addition, it must respect quotes in tags.
2. Substitution will not occur in PIs, CDATA sections, and comments.
3. In content, if the expression is type XML, it is inserted, otherwise the value `Escape(ToString(expression))` is inserted.
4. Substitutions in tags must be either an attribute value or must be a valid local name or qualified name not prefix that isn't "xmlns".
5. Attribute value substitutions must not be in quotes.
6. The structure of the literal should not change due to substitutions. For example, in the XML `<{a} b={c} {d}></{a}>`, `a = "foo bar="`, `b=4`, `c = ""` would be invalid. So would `a="!-"`.

## Specification Detail

John asks what level of detail is necessary in the specification.

The working group agrees that using a declarative approach (explanation in English) is fine as long as the description is precise and complete.