TC39 Chairman's Report

April 2013

Title: TC39 ECMAScript

Prepared by: John Neumann

Date April 11, 2013

1   Officers of the TC

Chair: John Neumann (Microsoft, Yahoo, Mozilla)

Vice Chair: Vacant

2   Executive summary

Work on the new Edition of ECMAScript continues and a new target date of December 2014 for GA Approval. A new Edition of ECMA-402 is also in progress now with expected completion of December 2014. We may begin work on a first version of a separate JSON standard if agreement with IETF can be reached regarding where the work should be done.

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

None

4   Future outlook

4.1   Future Plans

Work in TC39 will continue to focus on development of the ECMA-262 and related specifications. There is more than enough work to plan for an additional Edition (6) of the language. Work will continue on the Test system known as TEST 262 which is a Technical Report. A second version of ECMA-402 is already under development. There may be a possibility of collaboration with the IETF on development of an Ecma standard for the JSON specification widely used in conjunction with ECMA-262.

4.2   Membership

There will likely be an increase of one or two members depending on the outcome of talks with IETF on JSON. It is also possible that some existing members who have been active in TC39 in the past will renew their activity on the committee, such as Adobe. There are some other currently non-Ecma members who expressed some interest in joining TC39 and who are in the process if a direct participation in TC39 work would be of benefit to them.

4.3   Plans for growth

This committee is self sustaining and in truth significantly more participants working on ECMA-262 would likely slow the progress down. So we will not actively look for new members but will encourage companies wanting to participate but not allowed due to the RFTG rules to be put into place soon within TC39. It remains to be seen what effect this new policy will have on existing members but it must be closely monitored so that there is no negative impact on the work of the committee.

5   Decisions and issues recommended to be raised to the next General Assembly

We are waiting on the outcome of the ratification by the June GA of the IPR ad hoc recommendations should be ratified either after discussion at June GA or by postal vote following GA.

6   Meetings history and plans

Past meetings:

November 2012 - Cupertino (Apple)

January 2013 - Bay Area (Yahoo)

March 2013 - San Francisco (Mozilla)

Future meetings:

May 2013 - London (Google)

July 2012 - Seattle (Microsoft)

September 2012 - Boston

7   TC details

TC work pretty much continues without interruption but the sheer volume of changes planned in this new version has caused a delay in completion from December 2013 to December 2014. No impact is seen in the market place.

8   Cooperation with JTC 1

8.1   ECMAScript

SC 22 and IETF

8.2   Current active liaisons

SC 22.

8.3   Expecting fast-track for this reporting period and for the next reporting period

None

9   Other issues (if any)

None