ECMA-402 Draft Evaluation report

ECMAS-402 developed by Ecma International fulfils the requirements set out in Annex II of the Regulation:

Background:

Submission of ECMAScript (JavaScript) suite of standards on 13 September 2012 by European Commission.

After examination Ecma International expressed the view that the main part of ECMAScript suite of standards (ECMA-262) is already an ISO/IEC standard and is thus out of the scope the new Regulation and the identification process.

However, two ECMAScript components (ECMA-402 and the Technical Report ECMA TR/104 ECMA- 262 Test Suite/December 2011) were regarded as possible candidates for an identification procedure.

After longer discussions the evaluation group decided **not** to evaluate ECMA TR/104, as it is an informative document. Thus only compliance of ECMA-402 against the requirements for the identification of ICT technical specifications, set by Annex II of   Regulation   (EU)   No. 1025/2012 was assessed.

ECMA-402 (2)

Market acceptance

Ecma International has declared that the implementation of the specification has been commercially deployed by Google and Opera Software in browser products. Two additional commercial deployments have been firmly announced to become available during in 2013 – Mozilla and Microsoft. Level of implementation is estimated at of 90% of the web in the EU market.

This represents demonstrates – also in the light of the announcement of Mozilla and Microsoft- compliance with the market acceptance requirement in Annex II of the Regulation.

ECMA-402 (3)

Coherence with formal European standardisation environment

The specifications cover a domain where the adoption of a new European standard or standardisation deliverable is not foreseen within a reasonable period.

No existing European standards or standardisation deliverables covering the same domain out of date, obsolete or which did not gain market acceptance.

No transposition of the proposed specifications into a European standard or standardisation deliverable is not foreseen.

No plans to adopt ECMA-402 as a European deliverable.

European Commission

Openess, transparency
All interested parties can become members and participate in the work of TC 39 with an equal influence on decision processes. The Ecma International management is elected yearly by the Ecma General Assembly. Only persons from Ecma International Ordinary Members can be nominated and elected.

Non profit organisation
Ecma International is a non-profit making organisation

Decision making/consensus building
Decision processes within Ecma International are collaborative and consensus (Ecma International's procedural rules).
In case of ECMA-402, approval decisions for the final documents were unanimous, both at the Technical Committee and at the General Assembly level.

Transparency
Public archives of the mailing lists are maintained, records of meetings are published in proceedings, and decisions by the IESG are made available publicly.

Maintenance
 Each Ecma International TC has its own electronic archive, where all documentation (contributions, draft standards, meeting minutes etc.) are archived for unlimited times.

ECMA-402 (5)

Availability

All standards and Technical Reports (both in force and withdrawn) are publicly available and free of charge from the Ecma Website. This goes also for Ecma-402.

IPR

The Ecma patent policy is very similar to the ITU/ISO/IEC patent policy. It is a **RAND** policy, which allows (and facilitates) also RF patent statements. The short software license is BSD, free of charge.

Relevance

ECMA-402 addresses recognized market needs. The internationalization features offered by ECMA-402 are a particularly relevant enhancement of ECMAScript for the multi-linguistic European environment.

There are practically no alternatives available for addressing the interationalization problems.

Public procurers can already benefit from the reference to ISO/IEC 16262; the enhancement of the ECMA-402 would provide additional benefit for the implementation of the ECMAScript.

ECMA-402 (6)

Neutrality and stability

ECMA-402 effectively contributes to improved interoperability, and its implementation does not create any potential conflicts with the implementation of other technical specifications and especially with European Standards. The technology is up to date and the market acceptance of ECMAScript is very high.

Referencing of ECMA-402 would improve the ability to request internationalization features, as needed for the particular environment in a specific member state, by referencing a specification that ensures interoperability of implementations by different vendors.

Quality

The quality of the specification is such that competing implementations by different vendors are possible. This has been proven in practice by the demonstration of independent implementations of the specification (even prior to its approval in Ecma International).

ECMA-402(7)

Conclusions

The Evaluation Group proposes to the Platform
- to identify positively ECMA-402 as common technical specifications in the sense of art. 14 of the Regulation 1025/2013.

- to discuss on additional guidance material on the use and configuration of the ECMAScript "package" including the ISO/IEC 16262 and ECMA-402 and ECMA TR 102. This guidance might stress the advantages of internationalisation and proper testing, etc. and would be aimed at public procurers.