

Status of ECMAScript fast-track to JTC 1

November 2015

Title: TC39 ECMAScript Fast Track Status

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At the JTC1 Plenary Meeting I had a meeting with Rex Jaeschke (SC22 Chair) and Henry Cuschieri (ISO):

Agreements:

- 1) We should not submit separately the Ecma ECMAScript Standards to JTC 1 anymore.
- 2) We should create a few page long new Standard about what I call "ECMAScript Suite of Standards" (You may find a better name for it...). This gives just an introduction to the ECMAScript standards and makes normative references to the Ecma ECMAScript Standards. Maybe also to the Technical reports. This is something to think about. In the normative reference the Ecma standard should be referenced, but without the "Year". This means that always the latest version of the relevant Ecma standard counts. Clearly, ECMA-262 and ECMA-404 should be part of the Suite.
- 3) JSON is stable, fast-track to JTC 1 will come. Cross reference to a just started ETF JSON standard has to be done, when that is available. We keep liaison contacts with IETF on that issue. ECMA-402 (JSON) is excluded from the Suite and we handle it using the normal fast-track process. The reason is that even though JSON was originally derived from ECMAScript (and ECMA-262 now has a normative dependency upon it) it is no longer exclusively used with ECMAScript/JavaScript. Instead, JSON is now used as a language independent data interchange format for which "language bindings" exist for most widely used programming language. In addition, ECMA-402 is intended to be a very stable standard that is not expected to updated so there really isn't any reason to facilitate that possibility.
- 4) WE should continue to bind in the JTC 1/SC 22 groups interested in the development of ECMAScript via GitHub etc. directly into our process.

I think this is a good agreement, and if TC39 agrees with it we can start to implement it.