
Minutes of X3J14 Meeting #3

*ANS Forth Technical Committee
February 10-12, 1988, Redondo Beach, California
Doc No X3J14/88-030*

Call to Order

Ms. Rather welcomed the X3J14 TC and explained that since the SMC had still not chosen permanent officers, she would continue as the acting chair for this meeting. There are three volunteers for chair and no Internal Representative at present. She congratulated Mr. Duncan for his excellent job of publicizing the meeting.

Ms. Rather introduced four new attendees: Mr. Shaw (Shaw Labs), Mr. Harralson, Mr. Flournoy (IEEE), and Mr. Cramer. She reminded them that new members are observers at the first meeting. There were 15 voting members at this meeting. The attendance list for this meeting is document X3J14/88-008.

The amended draft minutes of X3J14 Meeting #2 (X3J14/87-020) were unanimously approved. A vote to ban video recordings at TC meetings was defeated, 4 in favor, 10 against. An action item review from the previous meeting was added to the agenda. The proposed agenda for this meeting (X3J14/88-002) was unanimously approved.

Action Item Review of Meeting #2

Research Subcommittee sent out dunning letters and received 26 more responses to the vendor questionnaires. Four members of the TSC signed on to be GENIE magnets. The Logistics Subcommittee brought an IBM-PC and a MacIntosh system to the meeting. Ms. Heidi Banner created a data base of technical proposals and their dispositions. The TC was represented at both the Forth Convention and at FORML. Mail ballots were sent out and voted upon.

Documentation Subcommittee Report

A revised technical proposal form (87-021) was approved by mail ballot. X3 suggested changing the designation ANS X3J14 to ANSI ASC X3J14. The amended form was passed 13 in favor, none against.

Mr. Dickens presented a BASIS policy (X3J14/88-009). Section A was amended to read "While BASIS is public, it is not to be reproduced without permission of the TC." All three sections A B C were approved 13 in favor, 0 against. The BASIS (X3J14/87-007) was changed in accordance with TP-001. All paragraphs with change bars were approved unanimously. It was agreed that the BASIS should get a dated cover sheet to keep track of the version. Further discussion was tabled at this point.

Mr. Dickens was thanked for investigating the American National Dictionary of Information Processing. He reported that ANDIP would probably not be useful to us at this time.

Research Subcommittee Report

Mr. Kelly reported that the dunning letters to FORTH vendors had brought in additional responses. To date there have been 43 valid responses, which are tabulated and combined with the previous report to produce a new Producer Questionnaire Report (X3J14/88-010). While the number of responses has increased, the statistics remain stable, with FORTH-83 still the preferred dialect.

Mr. Kelly had also received the results of a FORTH DIMENSIONS survey which showed 43% of the respondents using a FORTH-83 system and 26% using a FORTH-79 system.

Technical Subcommittee Report

Mr. Bailey reported that few members of the TC had actually signed on to GENIE and questioned its effectiveness for dialog between meetings. Members of the TC commented on their reasons for not signing on. A poll of members showed that, in general, they would be able to spend about 2 hours each week between meetings on X3J14 business. It was decided to wait until the next meeting to see if the activity on GENIE increased. The official MCI X3J14 bulletin board is largely inactive at this point.

Mr. Bailey then moved that the TC accept TP-021 (Recommended Preludes and Disciplines). It was voted 8 in favor, 3 against, to postpone the vote until the TSC meeting.

<Recess for TSC meeting>

Technical Proposals

Ms. Rather had received three technical proposals from the TSC with a recommendation to pass.

TP-002A†	Single and Double-Precision	Passed	12 in favor, 2 against, 1 abstention.
TP-005	Define Implementation Options	Passed	14 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention.
TP-008	Generalize Compilation	Passed	Unanimous.

<Recess until 2/12/88>

Ms. Rather had received several more proposals from the TSC with various recommendations.

TP-016	32-bit Word Set (Mitch Bradley)	Failed	Unanimous.
TP-024	Cell Size Specification	Failed	Unanimous.
TP-029	Definition of Division	Failed	Unanimous.
TP-009	Clarify Address Interpreter	Passed	Unanimous.
TP-014A	Miscellaneous Post Proposals	Passed	Unanimous.
TP-022	Explicit String Interpretation	Passed	Unanimous.
TP-028A	Definition of Division	Passed	Unanimous.
TP-006A	Implementation Options	Passed	13 in favor, 2 against.
TP-030	Eliminating Irrelevancies	Passed	Unanimous.
TP-012A	Clarify Block Numbers	Passed	14 in favor, 1 against.
TP-019A	NIP and TUCK	Passed	14 in favor, 1 against.
TP-021A	Recommended Preludes ...	Passed	Unanimous.

The TC agreed not to acknowledge acceptance or defeat of proposals submitted by members already present.

The Documentation Committee had produced a proposal detailing document changes to BASIS (TP-033).

TP-033	Document Changes to BASIS	Passed	14 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention.
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Public Service Announcements

Mr. Shaw volunteered to send notice of X3J14 activities with his next customer mailing. It was voted that public mailings by members of the TC will become committee policy and may be implemented administratively by the chair. It was amended that such mailings identify themselves as public service announcements by including the prominent notice:

Included in this product flier for public service is a release from X3J14 requesting your participation in their efforts.

This amendment was approved with 12 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstentions. The motion was passed 10 in favor, 1 against, 3 abstentions.

Basis Disposition

Mr. Dicken's BASIS disposition proposal was untabled and passed after some discussion with 13 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions. Mr. Bailey will investigate whether Kinko's Xerox could distribute the document.

The copy of the BASIS to be mailed to TC members was approved to be the current BASIS for the next meeting with 13 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Other Business

Ms. Rather proposed that we adopt a formal mechanism for recovering meeting and ever-increasing mailing costs. It was decided that the Forth Vendors Group would be the funding source for all mailing and copying and that we reimburse them at each meeting. The FVG would submit separate receipts for each TC member. This mechanism was approved unanimously (12 voting members).

It was pointed out that the November 15-18th TC meeting interferes with the Forth Convention. Mr. Rash will investigate moving the meeting to early November. It was also decided to ask Mr. Forsley not to try to move the May 11-14th meeting to May 18-21st.

Mr. Moore suggested we bring an overhead projector to the meetings. The Logistics Subcommittee agreed to bring a projector to the next three meetings.

Action Item Review

New action items are listed below:

1. Mr. Bailey will investigate using Kinko's Xerox to distribute the BASIS.
2. Mr. Dickens will check action item 1 out with CBEMA.
3. The FVG will begin tracking mailing and xeroxing expenses.
4. Mr. Betts will resolve the dates of the next two meetings and will provide for an overhead projector.
5. Mr. Shaw will generate a letter for distribution to his mailing list.
6. Ms. Rather will check action item 5 out with CBEMA.
7. Mr. Braithwaite will produce an updated BASIS within three weeks.
8. Mr. Tracy will send approved and amended technical proposals to Mr. Braithwaite.
9. Each TC principal member will submit one technical proposal to Mr. Bailey encapsulating his strongest objection to the BASIS as it currently stands.
10. Each TC principal member will complete Mr. Kobziar's Survey of Mass Storage Word Problems.

Adjournment

The third meeting of the X3J14 ANS Forth Technical Committee was adjourned at 4:00 P.M., on Friday, February 12, 1988.

Submitted by: Martin Tracy, Acting Secretary for X3J14 Meeting #3.

† The A suffix means that the proposal was amended.