

1. Identification of the Proposed Change

1.1 Title

\$FNUMBER Interpretation

1.2 MDC Proposer and Sponsor

Proposer:

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Sponsor:

MDC X11/TG17
Task Group 17 - Interpretations
Chair: Kate Schell

1.3 Motion

That the MDC accept this interpretation.

1.4 History

Jun. 1995 X11/TG17/95-3 Initial proposal.

1.5 Dependencies

None.

2. Justification of the Proposed Clarification

2.1 Needs

NIST Issue ID#5 ("SFNUMBER Function Specification inconsistent with Definition of Empty String"), raised and reexamined by the MUMPS Systems Laboratory, suggests that the metalanguage for fncode is illegal. The argument is that according to the metalanguage, fncode may be "undefined" (actually the metalanguage shows it may have zero characters), yet an fncodeexpr is the second argument to SFNUMBER.

4.1 Effect on Existing User Practices and Investments

Existing MUMPS code will be unaffected by this proposal.

4.2 Effect on Existing Vendor Practices and Investments

Existing MUMPS implementations will be unaffected by this proposal.

4.3 Techniques and Costs for Compliance Verification

Unchanged by this proposal.

4.4 Legal Considerations

None known.

5. Closely Related Standards Activities

5.1 Other X11 Proposals Under Consideration

None.

5.2 Other Related Standards Efforts

None known.

5.3 Recommendations for Coordinating Liaison

None.

6. Associated Documents

X11/95-60

NIST Issues 1-45 revisited.

7. Issues, Pros and Cons, and Discussion

None.