Title: Position Statement regarding E-LOTOS User Language

Source: AFNOR

Status: Approved by CGTI/CN21

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Action: For consideration during the Kansas City meeting

AFNOR makes three recommendations regarding the User Language for E-LOTOS to be selected during the SC21 meeting in Kansas City:

1. A high level of compatibility between standard LOTOS and E-LOTOS is expected. E-LOTOS should be a superset of LOTOS, so that existing LOTOS descriptions can be seen as E-LOTOS descriptions, possibly with some minor syntactic adaptations. Upward compatibility is necessary, because the existing standardized formal descriptions in LOTOS should be maintained, and because people already trained to LOTOS should still be able to use E-LOTOS.

2. Provision should be taken to ensure that E-LOTOS smoothly interfaces with the Interface Description Language (IDL) of ODP, and with the programming languages standardized in JTC1/SC22. For instance, "in" and "out" parameters, and exceptions, should be supported by the declaration of E-LOTOS functions and processes.

3. The new features of the User Language should provide a user-friendly syntax, compatible with the conventions of usual computer languages. This will enhance the readability of formal descriptions and contribute to a wide dissemination and acceptance of E-LOTOS.