AHG Report on Font Format

m66537 - WG3 "MPEG Systems" (January 22, 2024)

Mandates

- 1. Review the text of the updated Working Draft of ISO/IEC 14496-22 5th edition (WG03N00933).
- 2. Review the content of the "Technologies under consideration for ISO/IEC 14496-22 5th edition Open Font Format" document (WG03N01081), work on developing and finalizing specification changes to accommodate larger character sets and new features, prepare an updated input contribution and provide recommendations for the WG3 on how these changes should be integrated in the "Open Font Format" standard.
- 3. Explore potential future changes and updates, and propose new items (if applicable) for consideration in the 5th edition of the OFF specification.

Activities

- The AHG conducted active discussions on GitHub and the email list, which were accompanied by two AHG meetings:
 - AHG Zoom meeting on December 12, 2023, and
 - AHG Zoom meeting on January 9, 2024.

Activities

- In-depth technical discussions focus on analysis of proposed changes and their impact on relevant other parts of the specification.
 - Additional features Variable Composite glyph descriptions can now be shared between two major glyph outline formats - TrueType and CFF.

Activities

- New improvements proposed:
 - Enabling high performance and efficiency of future webfonts implementations:
 - "Opt-out mechanism for "sfnt" checksums" (m66095).
- New "Feature Variations" mechanism and new "Delta character map table" proposed for continued discussion:
 - Deferred until the next WG meeting in April 2024.

List of input contributions

- m66260: Proposed OFF changes to accommodate larger character sets and to add new features.
- m66095: Opt-out mechanism for SFNT checksums
- **m66525**: Proposed revisions to ISO/IEC 14496-22 5th Edition Working Draft (WG3/N1017).

AHG Recommendations

 AHG recommends accepting proposed updates and republishing the updated version of the Working Draft text of the 5th edition of ISO/IEC 14496-22 making it available for public review.

Thank you!

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