

**LIETUVOS STANDARTIZACIJOS DEPARTAMENTAS****LITHUANIAN STANDARDS BOARD**

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CONTEMPORARY LITHUANIAN ALPHABET ACCENTED LETTERS

Lithuanian Standards Board (LST) addresses you again on the issue of inclusion of the Lithuanian accented letters in the new version of ISO/IEC 10646 standard (as amendment) and the UNICODE.

In May, LST prepared and provided to ISO, ISO/IEC JTC1, subcommittee SC 2 and WG 2 the letter from Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania accompanying with the Rationale supporting this very important issue for Lithuanians and foreign society.

The contemporary Lithuanian alphabet accented letters are national heritage and widely used in Lithuania for maintenance of the Lithuanian State Terminology Database, publishing of Lithuanian standards (terminology chapters), Lithuanian schoolbooks, dictionaries, scientific and linguistic publications, official and judicial documents as well as abroad for study and research of Lithuanian language. The Lithuanian language can't be discriminated against other languages of World nations.

LST consider that Lithuanian accented letters are not yet included in ISO/IEC 10646 and Unicode due to insufficient and incomplete evidentiary material provided in 2006, why it is so very important for Lithuania. The new Proposal has more considerable argumentation and based on strong examples that representation (using composed sequences) of accented Lithuanian letters is not correctly accepted by software implementers. Lithuania hopes very much, that ISO/IEC/JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2 will take into account the new Proposal, estimate the losses for Lithuanian authorities, science institutions, publishers, software producers and other people due to absence of opportunity to use properly Lithuanian accented letters in the IT environment (projects' cost increases up to 25-30 %).

Hereby the LST provides the new updated Technical Proposal prepared by Mr. Vladas Tumasonis for including into the agenda and consideration during the 59th meeting ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2 in Mountain View, CA, U.S.A, 13-17 February, 2012.

This updated Technical Proposal is supported by various interested parties of Lithuania (Prime Minister, Parliament, authorities, scientific institutes, producers and service providers, etc.) and from abroad (see attached supporting letters). We are kindly asking high-level experts of WG2 to support our more motivated Proposal and consider it as a new technical and not only political issue. We know the political decision of JTC1 not to add new Latin precomposed characters and understand motivation, but this decision has been adopted before our declaration of vital needs of Lithuanian writing. Being a National Standards Body of Lithuania, LST strongly believes that our Proposal to add new Latin characters will secure normalization stability and serve as a good example of international standardization flexibility.

- Attachments:
1. The Technical Proposal (updated, 20 pages);
 2. The letter from Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania (2 pages);
 3. The letter from Secretary General of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania (1 page);
 4. The letters of support (7 pages).

Yours sincerely,



Brunonas Šičkus
Director