BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION
COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES (IST/5)

UK National Activity Report presented to the meeting of
ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22/WG5 (Fortran), Tokyo, April 17-21, 1995

The BSI Fortran Panel has 23 members, including observers and a graphics liaison member. There have been no panel meetings since the last WG5 meeting; most of the panel's business is conducted by mail and e-mail. In addition, three of its members are also members of the BSI committee on programming languages, the national counterpart of SC22, and one member is also on the management committee for all BSI IT committees.

The number of UK-based members of X3J3 is now one (Graham Barber), Miles Ellis having resigned following the most recent meeting in January 1995.

Twenty-four members from six member bodies attended the WG5 meeting in Edinburgh hosted by BSI in August 1994. The BSI has relinquished its lease on Hampden House in London, location of the 1978 ad hoc international Fortran meeting (the precursor of WG5) and of the March 1990 and March 1991 WG5 meetings. BSI conference facilities in London are now in a well-furbished but anonymous and relatively inaccessible office block in the suburbs.

As members of WG5 will be aware, the BSI has proposed Miles Ellis as convenor of WG5. An SC22 ballot (SC22/N1779) is currently taking place on this proposal with a closing date of 1995-06-06. Miles is thus attending this WG5 meeting as acting convenor.

Since the last WG5 meeting the Varying Length Character Strings in Fortran draft standard has been approved as ISO/IEC 1539-2:1994. A version of the standard, including annexes, is on WWW at URL: ftp://ftp.liv.ac.uk/pub/fortran_std/is1539-2.html.

The UK voted affirmatively in the SC22 ballot on adoption of the second Technical Corrigendum for Fortran.

The British Computer Society Fortran Specialist Group continues to be the principal open forum for discussion of Fortran matters in the UK. It has suffered from falling attendances recently, possibly due to the ready availability of information and debate on Fortran matters by electronic means, and it has held no meetings since the last WG5 meeting. It now has a WWW information page at URL: http://www.gold.net:80/bcs/siggroups/siglist.html.

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IST/5/-/5 (Fortran) Convenor
April 11, 1995