ISO/IEC JTC/1 SC/2 WG/2
Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)
Secretariat: ITSCJ

Title:	**Circled Numbers in JIS X 0213**
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Numbers (Two digit numbers with circle, Dual circled numbers and Inversed circled numbers) requested by Japan (for compatibility with JIS X 0213:2000) are one of the open issues.

This paper confirms Japanese position on to the number issues.

Note: Regular symbols issue is in progress as separated discussion, and only open issue (beside this paper) is request of pre-composed characters.

First of all, for compatibility (and round trip conversion) with JIS X 0213, there is no question that there is a needs to have the same repertoires within ISO/IEC 10646.

Since, other than acceptance of the proposal, there are no simple method to accommodate the requirements in short period of time. Even though there are many new tricks are possible to be invented for meeting the needs, there are no immediate proven solution yet, therefore, it would be better to provide the characters as original requirement for COMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL STANDARD immediately. Therefore, Japan requests to include the three types of circled characters into the BMP.

Japan noticed that there is an opinion which says "since number is endless, thus, acceptance of the circled number may invite endless requirement". Japan does not share this thinking. Japan believes in a good will of all participated national bodies.

No national body will try to keep adding numbers without any reasoning in unorganized idea. The requirement may come because those are necessary by some reason. So, this kind of requirement for numbers must be accepted when required,

Thought full review should be taken when new type of numbers are requested, but increasing a just numbers on existing characters may not be a big issue.

Rationale for up to 50:

Documentation guideline, which published by Prim Minister Office for formal governmental documentation (for Japan), defines to use circled numbers for certain level of itemizing. Also, the guideline recommends to limit the use of the circled numbers up to about 50. This is a reason why the numbers up to 50 are included within JIS X 0213: 2000.

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