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**Title : Proposal to transfer supply of reference material**

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## **Contribution of the PTB, April 2007**

Martin Albrecht

### **Supply of reference material for magnetic stripes**

Dear experts of WG1,

After our meeting in Braunschweig I had a detailed discussion with the head of my department about the future of the RM-supply. The fact that at least one company is interested in taking over the RM business changes the situation for the PTB drastically. Recognizing the evanescent staff and resources of the PTB in the area of data storage media and the still existing request of the industry in RM we agreed that it would be more effective to use the resources remaining in the PTB until 2008 to transfer the know how and the supply to another institution.

In result, I would like to ask ISO/IEC SC17WG1 to determine a follower for the supply of RM after 2008. The PTB would transfer the primary standards to the new source. As an option one measuring system including one drive of the PTB could be sold to the new supplier. The transfer should be finished in early 2008, so the new supplier has the chance to install the quality management before the end of 2008. Until this time the PTB will continue to support the RM. If the new certifier would be able to start the supply earlier and WG1 is willing to release the PTB from the contract for RM 7811-7 the new supplier could start earlier and the PTB would stop selling RM.

Additionally, the new supplier could try to verify the use of RM 7811-2 for certification according to ISO/IEC 7811-8.

The costs of the transfer could not be covered by the PTB. The new supplier should be able to delegate an engineer and/or scientist to the PTB to transfer the primary standards along with an introduction to the procedures used for certification and quality management on his own expense.

The company interested in taking over the RM supply is Q-Card. They send a letter of understanding confirming their interest to the PTB. They will be ISO quality certified according to ISO 9000, which is one of the prerequisites for the RM supplier, in 2007.

I would like the experts of WG1 to make a decision on this work item as soon as possible – not later than Fall 2007.

Best regards, Martin Albrecht