

W1.1 Image Quality of printers
Gloss and Gloss Uniformity
Yee S. Ng
January 3, 2001

NCITS - W1.1 2001-001

From: Yee S. Ng

Gloss/ Gloss Uniformity Working Group,

My name is Yee Ng, and I have volunteered to chair the (gloss / gloss uniformity) working group under the NCITS W1 technical standards committee. Our sub-committee (W1.1) chair, Norm Burningham, indicates you have volunteered to be on this working group on gloss/gloss uniformity. I'm writing to open lines of communication and begin to set some plans in place so we can begin our activities. As you may have been aware, the development of this effort has taken place over the last two years and we now have formal projects at both the US national and international level in formal standards development bodies. NCITS W1 is the "home" standards organization for our work.

The composition of this and all other working groups can be found through the NCITS homepage at: www.ncits.org/tc_home/w1.htm/w1pagel.htm Bookmark this site, we are going to be using it a lot! Just click on the NCITS W1.1 Sub-groups and then look under Team Leaders and Members to find the team members. The team's composition is not completed, and more people may be added (perhaps at your suggestion). Nevertheless, because of the fairly aggressive timeline envisioned, I am sending this now and we'll update those joining later as needed.

As you will notice, the W1.1 web site is far from complete, and is a work in progress. There are two other documents to take a look at. The first is the list of attributes, and the second is the proposed process. Please take a look at these. The final area of interest on the site is the team area. Ours is the gloss/gloss uniformity area. I am sending this to you and going to try to post it in the team discussion area. The team discussion area is a place where we will post ideas and information for ourselves and other working group members to read and comment.

The Timeline we are trying to get off to a fast start now that the formal paperwork is in place. At a teleconference of the working group team leaders end of last year, we agreed to try to:

1. Complete a solid attempt of "Attribute Definitions" by the end of January 2001.
2. Push "Measurement Methods" and "Target Creation" as far as possible during February and March.
3. Plan for two working group meetings at the Montreal PICS 2001 Conference, April 22-25. We have secured for the W1.1 effort, space for working group meetings on Sunday evening April 22 and Monday evening April 23. In addition we have a 90-minute block of time Tuesday

afternoon of the conference, in which each team will have about 10 minutes to review our progress to that point, summarize our directions and take Q&A.

Our overall goal is to achieve substantive progress along the path outlined in the process document. We recognize that this is a volunteer effort; simultaneously we recognize that without some initial push, many efforts don't generate enough momentum to keep going of their own accord.

The Path Forward

While reading this, please refer to the website documents relating to attributes and process. The process document, while not cast in concrete, has been through several revisions by the team leaders as a way to get started. It uses the Xerox methodology as outlined by Ed Dalal in the 1998 PICS conference as a starting point and generously expanded on for our use here. It allows us to get started. Please note Section 2 that describes our first task, which is to define the sub-attributes of gloss/gloss uniformity. Our initial working group goal would be to have a first cut at this completed by the end of January. I am asking at this point for all who have ideas to submit an initial list of the essential elements associated with the gloss/gloss uniformity image quality of a rendered color image, so that we have something in print to get us started. Please send your input to the whole working group (addresses in the team list or on this email). We then can individually review the proposal(s) and discuss them in email, iterating through revisions as necessary.

Emails and conference calls

Since we start out with a pretty small group, if we are to meet the above aggressive schedule, I would like to suggest we begin our discussion through email right away, then follow through with a series of biweekly teleconference calls (~ 1 hour each) that I will host (If you are interested, please send me your phone number, so I can connect you in the conference call. We will create a more efficient communication channel once we get more organized). I am going to take the risky step of suggesting a time, for the first and second call. How does January 16 and 30 at 1PM sound for openers? Please email me about your availability on this date. If you cannot make it please also respond ASAP. If we can get this teleconference starts, I would suggest we begin discussion with notes to follow for those who cannot attend. A call on these dates permits one or perhaps two more revisions before the end of January. Of course, if we find that we can not do a credible job in that time period, we will bow to the collective wisdom and choose quality over speed.

So, all of this implies that we collectively would need to send each other lists of our proposed sub-attributes no later than, say, Jan. 12. This is quite short notice, and you may not have a full list of sub-attributes worked out, but just ideas/considerations that you deem important for possible inclusion in our definition of this attribute. The final list of sub-attributes will be a comprehensive list of all our sub-attribute lists anyway. Any contributions at all will move us along the path, so I encourage your sharing your thoughts.

I may have left something out which you thought I should cover. If so, please do not hesitate to call or email me. My phone number is 716-726-3935 and my email is Yee_Ng@nexpress.com.

Sincerely,

Yee S. Ng

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