

# **Defects in ISO/IEC 29500:2008**

## **Explanation of whether to resolve defects**

### **by Corrigendum or by Amendment**

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 34/WG4**

**2009-03-26**

According to the JTC 1 Directives and as a general principle, if a feature is omitted from a standard, but the standard can be successfully implemented without such a feature—i.e., the defect is not such as to make it impossible to implement a feature already defined by the standard—such a defect should be resolved by Amendment.

However, ISO/IEC 29500 is a very large and complex multi-part standard, and it is not surprising that the text contains many unintentional technical defects, which nevertheless don't make it impossible to implement the standard.

In the course of drafting, some existing office document features were unintentionally overlooked, which result in it being impossible to fully represent some of the corpus of existing documents in ISO/IEC 29500.

Applying the general principle strictly, the resolution of all such defects would involve Amendment, since they don't actually prevent the standard from being implemented.

However, in the interest of resolving minor omissions in a timely fashion, WG4 plans to apply the following criteria for deciding that the unintentional omission or restriction of a feature may be resolved by Corrigendum rather than by Amendment. All of the following criteria should be met for the defect to be resolved by Corrigendum:

- 1) WG 4 agrees that the defect is an unintentional drafting error.
- 2) WG 4 agrees that the defect can be resolved without the theoretical possibility of breaking existing conformant implementations of the standard.
- 3) WG 4 agrees that the defect can be resolved without introducing any significant new feature.

Unless all the above criteria are met, the defect should be resolved by Amendment.