

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDISATION  
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION  
ISO/IEC JTC1/SC29/WG1  
CODING OF STILL PICTURES**

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29/WG 1 N1567**

**Date:1999 December 10**

**Title:** JBIG Maui Meeting Press Release

**Source:** SC29/WG1 JBIG SG

---

## **Press Release:**

# **New document compression standard quadruples compression of today's fax standards and runs at unprecedented speeds**

Designed for the Internet, JBIG2 is a new international standard for bi-level (black/white) image compression that offers significant advantages over other traditional bi-level compression formats used in today's Facsimile machines. It was produced jointly between the ITU and ISO/IEC international standardization bodies. The main new attractive features are:

- large increases in compression performance (typically 3-5 times smaller than Group 4/MMR, 2-4 times smaller than JBIG1)
- supports multi-page document compression, which can increase compression by another factor of two, as subsequent pages reuse fonts and character shapes used in previous pages
- high-performance decompression: using some coding modes, images can be decompressed at over one gigapixel per second in software
- special compression methods for text, halftones, and other binary image content
- supports traditional "lossless" compression, but also a new "lossy" type of image compression, whereby the compression factor is increased on average by a factor of about 3 to 10, without noticeable visual differences compared with the lossless mode.

- flexible format, designed for easy embedding in other image file formats, such as TIFF.

The formal ISO FCD ballot process closed successfully in December 1999. The JBIG committee, taking all the comments received into account, has ratified the final version of the JBIG2 standard. ISO/IEC JTC1/SC29 has initiated at their December meeting in Hawaii, USA the final (FDIS) ballot process. This is expected to end in February 2000 with the final approval of the JBIG2 standard. Parallel to the ISO ballot process, the ITU-T SG8 is also planning to approve the standard in their February 2000 meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. It is hoped that the industry will be well served by this new bi-level image compressing tool, which enables new applications and systems utilizing this revolutionary new system.