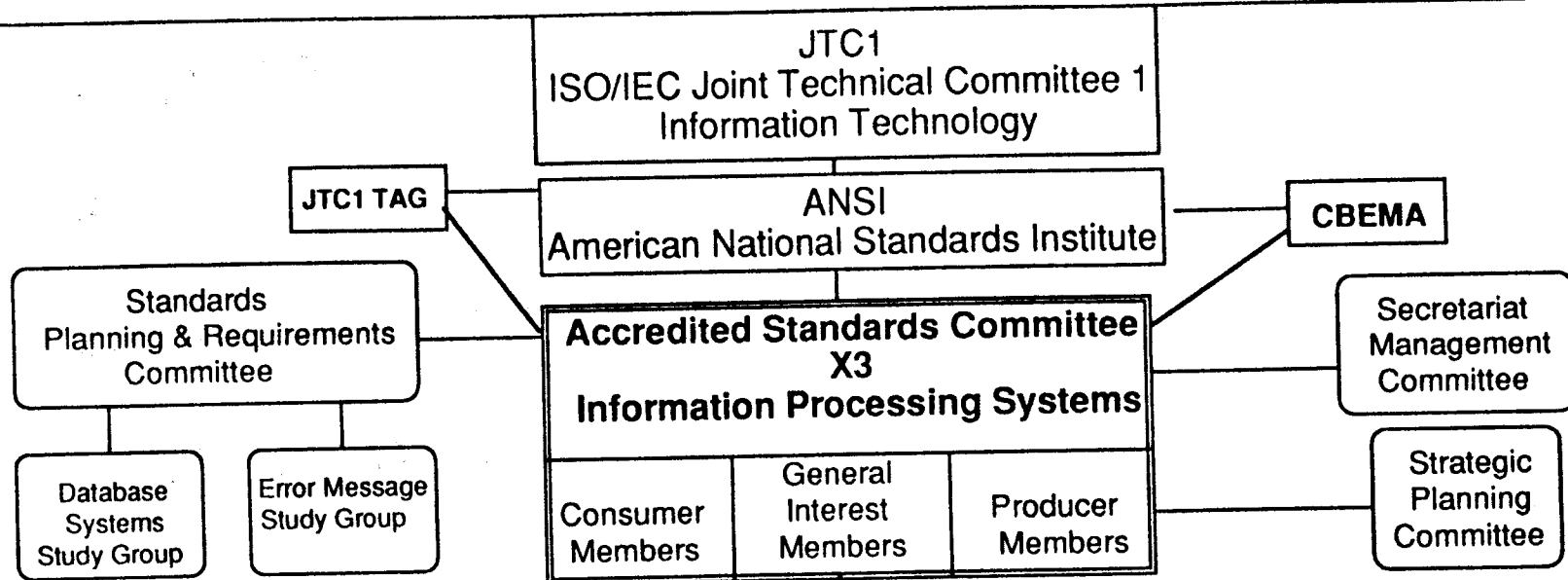


X3J18—THE REXX STANDARD

NEIL MILSTED  
IX CORPORATION

# **X3J18 - The REXX standard**

# Organizational Chart for X3



## X3 Technical Committees

X3A1	Optical Character Recognition	X3H5	Parallel Processing Constructs for High Level Programming Languages	X3J14	FORTH	X3T4	Security Techniques
X3B5	Digital Magnetic Tape	X3H6	CIS	X3J15	DATABUS	X3T5	Open Systems Interconnection
X3B6	Instrumentation Tape	X3J1	PL/I	X3J16	C++	X3T6	Non-Contact Info. Systems interfaces
X3B7	Magnetic Disks	X3J2	Basic	X3J17	Prolog	X3T7	Internationalization
X3B8	Flexible Disk Cartridges	X3J3	FORTTRAN	X3J18	REXX	X3T9	I/O Interface
X3B9	Paper/Forms Layout	X3J4	COBOL	X3K5	Vocabulary	X3V1	Text: Office & Pub Systems
X3B10	Credit/Identification Cards	X3J7	APT	X3L2	Codes & Character Sets	X3W1	Office Machines
X3B11	Optical Digital Data Disks	X3J9	PASCAL	X3L3	Audio/Picture Coding	SC21 TAG - Information Retrieval, Transfer & Management for ISO	
X3H2	Database	X3J10	APL	X3L8	Data Representation	SC22 TAG - Languages	
X3H3	Computer Graphics	X3J11	C	X3S3	Data Communications		
X3H4	Information Resource Dictionary System	X3J12	DIBOL	X3T2	Data Interchange		
		X3J13	LISP	X3T3	Open Distributed Processing		

# Current Members - Vendors

- IBM
- Kilowatt
- The Workstation Group
- Quercus
- Commodore
- Wishful Thinking
- iX
- System Center

# Current Members - Users

- Amdahl
- SHARE
- SLAC
- Computer Associates
- Tritus

# Officers

- Brian Marks - Chairman
- Neil Milsted - Vice Chairman
- Ed Spire - Secretary
- Dean Williams - Editor
- Reed Meseck - Vocabulary Representative

# **To become a voting member:**

- Attend two consecutive meetings
- Pay \$250 in dues

**To become an interested party, simply ask Neil Milsted**

- **CIS: 76050,3673**
- **Internet: [nfnm@wrkgrp.com](mailto:nfnm@wrkgrp.com)**
- **Phone: (312) 902-2149**



## **The REXX standard is being done in two parts:**

- **Part one: Codify "The REXX Language" by Mike Cowlshaw (TRL).**
- **Part two: Define new features and extensions.**
- **Completion of the first part is scheduled for March 1994.**

# Work underway for standard:

- Syntax
- Assignments and variables
- Messages
- Parse
- I/O
- Arithmetic

# Work to be done for standard:

- Commands
- Keyword Instructions & Function calls
- Builtin functions
- Trace
- Conditions
- Environment Interface
- Limits
- Standard Outline
- Standard Introduction
- Standard Rational

# Information Processing - Programming Languages - The REXX Language

## 1 Scope

### 1.1

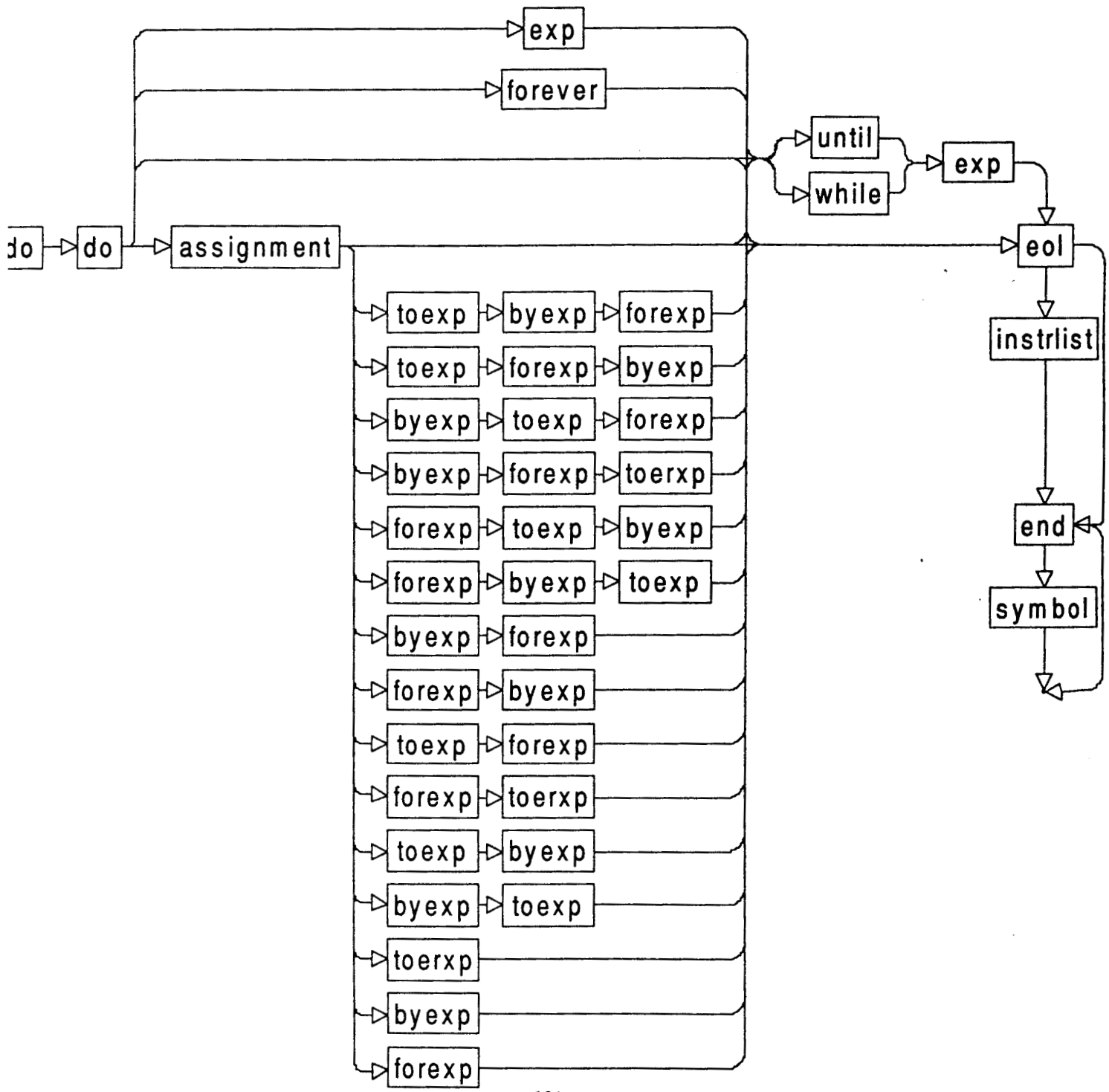
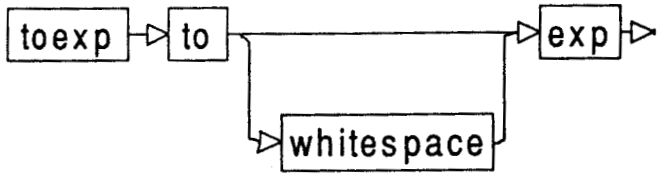
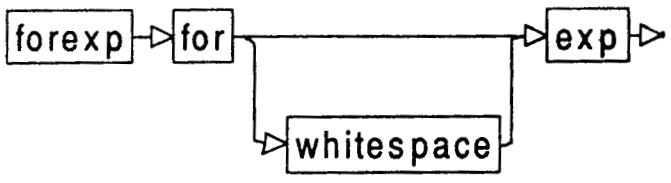
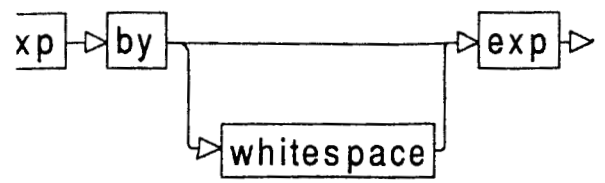
This Standard specifies the semantics and syntax of the computer programming language REXX by specifying requirements for a processor and for a conforming program. The scope of this standard includes

- the representation of REXX programs;
- the syntax and constraints of the REXX language;
- the semantic rules for interpreting REXX programs;
- the representation of input data to be processed by REXX programs;
- the representation of output produced by REXX programs;
- the restrictions and limitations imposed by a conforming implementation of REXX;
- the behavior of environmental interfaces.

### 1.2

This Standard does not specify:

- the mechanism by which REXX programs are transformed for use by a data-processing system;
- the mechanism by which REXX programs are invoked for use by a data-processing system;
- the mechanism by which input data are transformed for use by a REXX program;
- the mechanism by which output data are transformed after being produced by a REXX program;
- the size or complexity of a program and its data that will exceed the capacity of any specific data-processing system or the capacity of a particular processor;
- all minimal requirements of a data-processing system that is capable of supporting a conforming implementation;



# Issues discussed

- Normal comparison operator is intransitive
  - $9ea > 1e1 > 9e0 > 9ea$  (in EBCDIC).
  - $1ea < 9e0 < 1e1 < 1ea$  (in ASCII).
- Extensibility within the standard

# **X3J18 will not:**

- Create a test suite
- Police vendors