# Defect Report Log V2 Plan

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At the recent SC 34/WG4 meeting in Bellevue, Washington, I took an action item to report to WG4 on my investigation into using 29500-related technology as the vehicle for solving the growing DR log size problem. This document is my report.

## The Current Approach

DRs are stored sequentially in a single DOCX file (the DR Log), in the order in which I receive them.

I receive DRs in the following ways:

1. By cutting and pasting submissions from the DR submissions website (mostly used by JP).
2. From DOCX submissions formatted for direct insertion into the DR log (mostly used by GB and Ecma).
3. From ad hoc formatted documents received from other NBs.

At the front of the DR Log, I maintain the following:

1. A history list of additions/changes.
2. A count and summary of DRs by status, with each DR in any given state being accessed via a hyperlink.
3. A Table of Contents, with hyperlinks to each DR.

Separately, I maintain a spreadsheet (the DR Log Index), which contains a summary of the DRs. It contains 4 fields *not* currently present in the DR Log, which indicate the Parts (1–4) that are affected by the resolution of any given DR. This spreadsheet is maintained manually.

## The Problem I'm Addressing

The original DR log system was thrown together rather hurriedly, and while it's worked ok until now, the approach used doesn't scale well. The single-file DR Log approach used means that the log file grows with each new DR, and given that there is utility in keeping "closed" DRs around for reference, nothing is being removed from the log. As the DR Log Index is maintained manually, it can get out of sync with the DR Log.

As editor, the main things I need to do with respect to DR processing are:

1. Add new DRs.
2. Track all DRs' progress, adding in email threads and decisions from meetings.

3. Produce some simple statistics on DR status.
4. Extract closed resolutions for DCOR and FPDAM creation, and corresponding revised electronic schemas.

Regarding schema changes, there are two aspects to that: maintaining a change-tracked record of the changes for the schema annexes, and producing a final revised electronic version. My plan includes the first of these (just as it did for V1), but not the second. That said, I suggest that before a DR resulting in schema changes is declared closed, we should make those changes to the schema and validate them, rather than waiting until we go to publish a DCOR or FPDAM.

## The Proposed Solution

The new approach is as follows:

1. Under program control, split up the DR Log such that each DR is in its own DOCX file (DR File) that contains each field as a content control. Along the way, take the 4 extra fields from the current DR Log Index, and put them in each corresponding DR File. (This is a one-time-only task, for which I have a running prototype.)
2. Under program control, generate the DR Log Index spreadsheet from the set of DR Files, adding appropriate Pivot Tables, Charts, and such to provide the summaries and statistics on a new sheet, previously produced manually in the DR Log. Each DR Number in the spreadsheet will be hyperlinked to the corresponding DR File. (This will be run each time I publish a new/revised DR Log file set.)
3. Maintain the history list of additions/changes previously included at the front of the DR Log, in its own DOCX file.
4. Distribute to members, the following files:
   a. Originally, the set of all DR Files. Afterwards, only those new/changed DR Files.
   b. The DR Log Index.
   c. The DR History Log.
   d. Information about the DR File structure (such as content control names), and DOCX versions of DR Files and the XLSX DR Log Index, so, if members so chose, they can write their own programs to access files via content controls or spreadsheet cells.

Under this scheme, members will be able to access any DR File directly by name, as each DR will be in its own file. They can also access it via the hyperlink from its row in the DR Log Index.

## Future DR Submissions

We'll continue to have the same 3 ways of receiving DRs:

1. By cutting and pasting submissions from the DR submissions website.
2. From DOCX submissions formatted using the new DR File template.
3. From ad hoc formatted documents received from other NBs.

And when any DR is discussed at a meeting, via email, or in any submitted committee documents, I'll contain to add that information to that DR's File.