Subject: Parameter declarations inside of type definitions
From: Van Snyder
Reference: 03-258r1, section 2.2.2

Number

TBD

Title

Parameter declarations inside of type definitions.

Submitted By

J3

Status

For consideration.

Basic Functionality

Parameter declarations inside of type definitions.

Rationale

One sometimes needs to declare a parameter for the purpose of declaring a component of a type. It would reduce maintenance costs somewhat if parameters needed for this purpose and no other could be declared within the type.

Estimated Impact

Minor.

Detailed Specification

Allow parameter (i.e., named constant) declarations inside of type definitions. Allow them to be referenced from outwith the type definition, in contexts other than variable definition contexts (16.5.7), as though selecting a component of an object — similarly to the way that type parameters of the object can be referenced. Within the type definition, they can be accessed by their designator without qualification (since there is no object). Dynamic parameters (see 04-200), including ones that depend on length parameters of the type, would also be useful.

History