Standards Change Request

Add .FIT and .FTS as reserved extensions in Table 10.1 of StdRef   SCR3-1129.v2

Provenance:

Date: 2008-02-22
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Date: 2008-01-09
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Title: Add .FIT and .FTS as reserved extensions in Table 10.1 of StdRef (SCR3-1129.v1)

Problem:

A couple of PDS nodes have been using ".FIT" as the file extension for FITS formatted files for years. Nothing in the Standards Reference forbids this usage, but some nodes have interpreted the standards to forbid it. This SCR proposes to clarify the standards.

Current Urgency:

None.

Proposed Solution:

We propose adding ".FIT" and ".FTS" to the list of reserved file extensions provided in Table 10.1 of the Standards Reference. Section 10.2.3 of the PDS Standards Reference will also be updated to make it clear that the presence of a given file extension in Table 10.1 does not imply acceptance of that data format for archiving purposes.

Impact Assessment:

PDS Standards Reference – minor changes to Table 10.1 and section 10.2.3 as described below

Archive Preparation Guide – no impact

Proposer's Archive Guide – no impact

Planetary Science Data Dictionary – no impact

PDS tools - EN development team members P. Ramirez and M. Cayanan see no potential software issues.

Additional Information:

Information about the FITS format is available at http://fits.gsfc.nasa.gov/.

Requested Changes:

Add the following two entries to Table 10.1 in section 10.2.3 of the Standards Reference:

.FIT   Image data with FITS (Flexible Image Transport System) header (preferred)
.FTS   Image data with FITS (Flexible Image Transport System) header

The following paragraph will be added after the existing paragraph in section 10.2.3 of the Standards Reference:

"Note that the presence of any given file extension in this table should in no way be construed as to imply that the associated format is acceptable for data archiving purposes. Please consult your Discipline Node for assistance in determining acceptable formats for that purpose."