Subject: Named specification expressions
From: Van Snyder
Reference: 03-258r1, section 2.10

1 Number

2 TBD

3 Title

4 Named specification expressions.

5 Submitted By

6 J3

7 Status

8 For consideration.

9 Basic Functionality

10 Provide for a name to be given to a specification expression.

11 Rationale

12 Automatic variables are convenient, but if several of them have the same (complicated) dimensions or
13 lengths, it is tedious to declare them.

14 If several dummy arguments have dimensions or length parameters that are given by the same (compli-
15 cated) specification expression, it is tedious to declare them.

16 Estimated Impact

17 Minor.

18 Detailed Specification

19 Provide for a name to be given to a specification expression.

20 One way to do this is to have a class of parameters, identified explicitly by an attribute, say DYNAMIC,
21 whose values are given by specification rather than initialization expressions. That is, they are allowed to
22 depend on other entities in exactly the same way that dimensions and length parameters are. Dynamic
23 parameters can obviously be allowed only within procedures. It should be prohibited for them to appear
24 in variable definition contexts.

25 History