

Subject: Remove prohibition against forward reference to the type of an object
From: Van Snyder

1 **Number**

2 TBD

3 **Title**

4 Remove prohibition against forward reference to the type of an object.

5 **Submitted By**

6 J3

7 **Status**

8 For consideration.

9 **Basic Functionality**

10 Remove prohibition against forward reference to the type of an object.

11 **Rationale**

12 Processors are required to support forward reference from the FUNCTION statement to its result type
13 if the result type is derived, or from an IMPLICIT statement to a derived type, so there's really no point
14 to requiring other objects not to have their types declared by a forward reference.

15 The standard is inconsistent as it stands — compare the first and last sentences of 5.1.1.1 — so some
16 revision is necessary.

17 **Estimated Impact**

18 Trivial for the standard. Probably in the trivial-to-small range for processors.

19 **Detailed Specification**

20 Where a data entity is declared explicitly using a TYPE *declaration-type-spec*, the *type-name* in the 75:8-14
21 *derived-type-spec* shall specify a type that is defined within the same scoping unit or is accessible there
22 by use or host association.

23 [Insert at the end of the paragraph:] 75:22

24 Where a data entity is declared explicitly using a CLASS *declaration-type-spec* that is not CLASS(*),
25 the *type-name* in the *derived-type-spec* shall specify a type that is defined within the same scoping unit
26 or is accessible there by use or host association.

27 **History**