

Draft Meeting Notes from the EMA-TC Teleconference

Date: Dec. 10, 2010
12:00-13:00 EDT

Next Meeting: Jan. 07, 2011

1. Attendance

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Andrew Lewis (AL) | Aviv Siegel (AS) | Bill Tabor (BT) | Bryan Kaplan (BK) |
| Buddy Ackerman (BA) | Camille Osterloh* (CO) | Claire Carpenter (CC) | Daniel Ryan (DR) |
| Dara Ung (DaU) | David Box (DB) | Dee Schur (DS) | Denis Gusty (DG) |
| Don Beattie (DoB) | Don Uyl (DoU) | Donald McGarry (DMG) | Doug Allport (DA) |
| Elysa Jones* (EJ) | Gary Timm* (GT) | Gavin Treadgold (GTr) | Hans Jespersen (HJ) |
| Herbert White* (HW) | Jacob Westfall (JWe) | Jane Harnad (JH) | Jeff Waters (JWa) |
| Maria Emerson (ME) | Mark Lucero (ML) | Mark Titus (MT) | Mary McRae (MMR) |
| Norm Paulsen (NP) | Patrick Gannon* (PG) | Paul Denning (PD) | Rex Brooks* (RB) |
| Rob Torchon (RT) | Robin Cover (RC) | Shayne Barr (SB) | Sukumar Dwarkanath (SD) |
| Thomas Ferrentino* (TF) | Thomas Merkle (TM) | Tim Grapes (TG) | Werner Joerg* (WJ) |
| William Cox (WCx) | William Flannigan Jr. (WF) | William Kalin (WK) | |

* indicates voting member

Quorum – not achieved

- Review of Agenda:** due to the low attendance, the group agreed to focus on a few specific points.
- Review** of meeting notes – notes (incl. Audio excerpt) were posted and available, but not reviewed.
- Next EMA-TC call:** the group agrees to cancel the Dec. 24 call and resume regular TC meetings on Friday, Jan. 07, 2011 at the usual time.
- TC Process:** update. WJ reminds the group of Mary McRae's presentation / discussion during the Nov. 12 TC call about the changes that went into force on Oct. 15. The rules relating to the new non-standards track were of prime interest, and resulted in a number of open questions. In following up on that meeting, WJ was informed by MMR that the Process Committee had “reversed its position that only presentations approved at the Committee Note level can be presented”. MMR expressed willingness to reappear at a future EMA-TC call to answer questions that might arise from this new situation. The group agreed to initiate a list of questions for submission to MMR, recognizing that more questions will emerge once we start to produce material for public use.

The primary concerns emerge from the impracticality of full OASIS/TC approval processes for work products such as webinars or wiki entries, given the targeted frequency of their delivery and the implied length of the formal processes. The key may lie in a clear definition of what it means to “approve content”, where, in the context of webinars, the notion of “content” can range from list of topics, to slide content, to full, pre-recorded session.

The group expressed the expectation that the result of a future meeting with the TC Administrator should be a clear identification of the work products that fall under the the strict rules of Committee Note process (white papers, advertising?), and what processes might be considered for other work products (webinars?).

6. The problem of low participation in SC and TC activities – causes and possible remedies. Focusing on causes, the group lists overload of members, topics selection, personality issues, economics (employers demands for rapid beneficial returns, shrinking readiness to work for the common good, ...) and combinations thereof as possibilities. Members face difficulties in justifying volunteer time for OASIS to their employers under tightening resources and demands for prioritization. We expect further discussions through the wiki and during upcoming telecons to refine and classify the causes.

The discussion then centers around what can/should be done. The group observes that no single action is likely to address all the causes – there is an educational component to provide TC members with value arguments for their organizations, but such arguments are mainly long term and difficult to quantify. There is also a need for educating local public safety agencies about the value of interoperability and local jurisdictions about their role in making it happen by demanding interoperability in the products they acquire. This will require that our outreach efforts include practitioners.

The discussion also evidenced that the EMA TC has to become more aggressive in promoting the supporting material it already has (e.g. slide deck and webinars) to the EM TC members and beyond through public events such as conferences and interop demos.

In order to reduce the risk of overloading the active TC members, the sequencing of our many tasks must be clearly prioritized and the resource allocations must be reviewed. The results should be captured in a timeline of milestones and deliverables that can be reviewed by the member organizations. And this may have the beneficial side effect of bringing back more members into active roles.

RB moves to adjourn.

Session adjourned 12:55.

Redacted and submitted by

Werner Joerg, co-Chair
OASIS EMA-TC

110106/wbj