

TRNS•PORT User Group
Data Processing Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
October 16, 2001, Meeting Minutes

The Data Processing Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of the TRNS•PORT User Group, met on Tuesday Evening, October 16, 2001, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The following (9) members or proxies were present:

Andy Crenshaw, AL
Mitch Hendricks, NE
Jodi Simon, MI
Jennifer McAllister, OH
Nasser Pourfarzaneh, FL

Frank Branson, OK (proxy)
Dave Whitbeck, OR
Mark Janicek, WY
John Mascarenas, CO

Since the last meeting Bill Gordon of Minnesota requested that Todd Bergland replace him on the TAG. Mitch Hendricks from Nebraska joined the TAG. Upon sending the solicitation for 2001-2, Eric Erskine, ME, and John Sakakeeny, NC requested not to serve another year on the TAG.

In addition to the above listed people, four (4) Info Tech employees and twenty-one (21) guests were present.

The minutes from the 2000 Meeting in Santa Fe, NM were approved as distributed.

Jodi Simon was selected as Assistant TAG coordinator for 2002-2003.

The TAG reaffirmed its mission statement, and Short and Long term goals.

The Coordinator called for a discussion of Ballot Items from the floor. The TAG discussed various ballot items but only chose to endorse three (3) ballot items:

- 4261 Provide a Facility to Generate Items for a New Spec Book
- 5010 Token to edit ESTITEM records for Projects With existing Addenda.
- 5011 Add Control Group functionality at the Bid Letting Level

A lengthy discussion ensued on Ballot Item 3724 (Adding an additional digit to the Unit Price field). Because Florida DOT had faced this issue and other states felt that this could soon be an issue in their state, the TAG adopted a resolution. This resolution calls on the User Group to request the TRNS*PORT Task Force to have Info Tech study the problem and have a formal presentation as to potential solutions. (Resolution 1 Attached)

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Since the last meetings there had been discussion among the members about renaming (updating) the TAGs name. Of the names suggested, the group chose Information Technology, and adopted a resolution (#2) requesting the name change.

In the Open forum of the meeting the following Items were discussed.

Wisconsin DOT mentioned that they were going to have Info Tech work on validating HP/Unix as a valid platform.

FLDOT expressed concerns with Editing LAS/PES data after it was passed to Site Manager.

John Mascarenas of Colorado expressed a concern about the overlap in the TEA meetings and the TUGs TAG Meetings. The Coordinator agreed with him and would voice our concerns at the Board/TAG Coordinator meetings during this conference.

Andy Crenshaw of Alabama mentioned deleting expired Process Status Files and the fact that more than 1 GB of data had been eliminated since the first of 2001, by deleting these files off the PES/LAS Application server.

Jodi Simon of Michigan asked if any states had a problem with release 4 (overlooked upgrades) clients accessing a release 5 database. A suggestion was made to rename the DBINI file to eliminate this problem.

One other issue was in regard to Terminal Server, and if anyone had success with it. John of Colorado said he had tested it in Site Manager with good success. Charles E of ITI mentioned that more testing needed to be done on P/L/C modules.

With no further business to discuss, the DP TAG adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

RESOLUTION 1

Whereas, Ballot Item 3724 requests that the size of the Unit Price Field be increased from 13.5 to 14.5, and

Whereas the Florida DOT has encountered a problem with the size of the Unit Price Field, and other states also see this as a potential problem in the foreseeable future, and

Whereas, making any change to the unit price field will be tremendous undertaking,

Therefore, let it be resolved by the Data Processing Technical Advisory Group of the TRNS•PORT User Group, call on the TRNS•PORT User Group to request that the TRNS•PORT Task Force call for our contractor (Info Tech) to further research this problem and formally present potential solutions to this problem.

(When this resolution was introduced at the TUG Business Meeting, the TRNS•PORT Task Force Chair advised the meeting that the Task Force had addressed this issue. With that statement, the Coordinator withdrew the resolution.)

DP RESOLUTION 2

Whereas, the Data Processing Technical Advisory Group (DP TAG) has been a part of the TRNS•PORT User Group from its inception, and

Whereas, the use of the term Data Processing has become obsolete, and

Whereas, the name Information Technology better indicates the purpose of our Technical Advisory Group, and its technical relationship to the TRNS•PORT Software.

Therefore, let it be resolved by the Data Processing Technical Advisory Group of the TRNS•PORT User Group, the name of our Technical Advisory Group be changed

From: Data Processing Technical Advisory Group

To: Information Technology Technical Advisory Group