

Construction Management TAG

October 17, 2001

Meeting was called to order, and all attendees were asked to sign in.

Those in attendance were:	Shirley Daugherty – Nebraska	Paul Neumann – Colorado
Janet Weigand – Virginia	John Carpenter – InfoTech	James Hancock – Indiana
Rick Yunker – Indiana	Jim Ferguson – Nebraska	Ronda Lewis – Nebraska
Emeka Moneme – District of Columbia	Russ Barron – Missouri	Rick Jennings – Missouri
Wilma DeGraffenreid – Missouri	Don Grayson – Mississippi	Bruce Stapleton – New Brunswick
Scott Eliasson – Connecticut	Joseph Bouchey – Connecticut	Judy Alonzo – Texas
Mike Zelm- Wisconsin	Brad Parks – InfoTech	Charles Thurman- Oklahoma
Wayne Weick – Louisiana	Chris Achilles – Vermont	Mark Peloquin – Vermont
Robert Dupont – Louisiana	Brian Parnell – South Carolina	David Henning – Arkansas
Gus Wagner – Minnesota	David Duffey – Georgia	Don SanGregorio – Florida
Susan Powe – Alabama	Lyle Mallett – InfoTech	Frances Thomas – Florida
Stanley White – Georgia	Joe James – InfoTech	John Oberdiek – InfoTech
Gina Merseal – InfoTech	David Bernard – New York	Vincent Rodriquez – HDR Engineering
Robert LaCourse – HDR Engineering	Bob Gallagher – Earthtech	Jim Thurley – New York
Robert Johnson – Alabama	Robert Shurgart – Alabama	Sharon Meyerhoff – Indiana
Dawn Scheel – PBSJ	Lonnie Jones – Georgia	Jeremy Kampeter – Missouri
Richard Meador – Missouri		

The minutes of last year's TAG meeting were distributed to official TAG members. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Review Mission Statement & Goals

The mission statement was reviewed. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to revise the mission statement as follows:

To provide a forum for users of AASHTO Trns*Port construction-related modules to discuss maintenance issues related to the respective modules and to discuss proposed enhancements to said

modules, thereby making recommendations to the User Group general body and the Trns*Port Task Force.

The motion carried. Following more discussion, it was moved and seconded to further revise the mission statement for more consistency. The motion carried. The mission statement will read as follows:

To provide a forum for users of AASHTO Trns*Port construction management applications to discuss maintenance issues related to the respective modules and to discuss proposed enhancements to said modules, thereby making recommendations to the User Group general body and the Trns*Port Task Force.

The long-term goals were reviewed. Short-term goals were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to add the following third statement to the short-term goals:

To provide recommendations to the Trns*Port Task Force on enhancement issue priorities.

InfoTech Report

Brad Parks of InfoTech reported on the status of Trns*Port construction applications. Included in his report were SiteManager status, enhancements, and plans for 2002; update on the Trns*Port Intranet module; SitePad update; CHAMP interface update; update on FieldManager status and enhancements; and CAS implementation status. Future initiatives for SiteManager include: approximately 30 items to improve materials functionality in SiteManager as suggested by the Materials TAG; SiteNet proposal to automate data flow and replace pipeline and zip functionality; SiteManager/FieldManager interface proposal to add functionality for state-let and locally administered projects; SitePad Phase 2 to add functionality; add the ability to maintain and share a single Trns*Port reference database; and research options for more effective delivery of releases and product updates.

Maintenance Item Review

It was noted a 5-member CIRT team had been formed as a subcommittee of this TAG to review and prioritize the TMRs. The CIRT reviews these twice a year. There was some discussion on getting reports converted to RTF. It was noted having InfoTech do this carries a price tag. Last year Shirley Daugherty volunteered to work on some of these reports. She will begin with this release.

Ballot Item Review

Due to time constraints, a limited review of ballot items was held. TAG members were allowed time to discuss any ballot items they wished to discuss.

CAS Enhancements: There are 5 items. There was no discussion on these items.

General System Enhancements:

- Add a new interface between SiteManager and FieldManager. It was noted this is an issue for local entities and consultants who must interface with states. There was a motion and second to not support this interface as a TAG at the present time. The motion was amended to not support this interface as written and look at the possibility of modularizing it. The amended motion was seconded and carried.
- Increase the field size for single pay items. This would have no effect on SiteManager but affects other modules.

Major Trns*Port Enhancements:

- To allow fractional lump sum quantities; there was no discussion

FieldManager Enhancements: There are 11 enhancements proposed. There was no discussion on these items.

SiteManager Enhancements: There are too many enhancements to discuss them all, but the following items were discussed.

- #2125 – Change “Suspend Time/Resume Time” to “Work Begin/Work End.” ALDOT is looking at funding this, but wanted to make sure the change was not a problem for other states. No objections to this proposal were voiced.
- #2582 – Estimate generated liquidated damages. Would like to make it an option to spread liquidated damages proportionally over projects based on project earnings. It was noted that this would have to be implemented in a manner that allowed disabling the feature to meet some states needs.
- #5015 – Revise centralized/exportable master list. This issue prompted discussion about allowing states to review and/or beta test what is coming out in major SiteManager updates and enhancements before it is released, noting what you say you want is not always what you get. The point was taken for future reference. It was noted, however, beta is not the time to make design changes; input is needed prior to this stage. It was stated JAD sessions would increase the cost of enhancements. Less costly alternative JAD session methods were discussed.
- #4371 – Change auto pay item to pay against project line. If this is not working as originally designed, it is not an enhancement but a maintenance issue. This issue will be looked at further.
- #4367 – Change the screen display to 800 x 600 pixels. Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to have Georgia review this issue and address specific objects. It was felt this is still a valid issue and that perhaps there is need for another enhancement. The motion was rescinded. This issue will remain on the ballot, and the TAG will submit a new one.
- #2115 – Change order multi-tab window instead of multiple change order windows. Following discussion of this issue, the TAG voted to add a ballot item to reverse the order of the “Category” and “Project Number” fields and correct the tab order and to add Explanations to the Services drop down menu.
- #4097 – Improve the process for sending notification (ability to send messages to specific people). Texas stated the in-box was not filtered and anyone with approval authority gets all messages for the entire state. It was felt these are two different issues. Texas will write their issue up as a TMR.
- #4042 – Associate funding source for estimate adjustments (for material stockpile).
- #4274 – All contract adjustments should include funding source allocation. It was decided 4042 and 4274 should be combined. Nebraska will withdraw #4042.
- #4743 – Create a funding cap. It will be noted this one should be looked at if/when working on 4274.

- #5014 – To provide for automatic limits on payment estimates at an item level. This issue was discussed at length at last year’s TAG. MoDOT has made a proposal based on everyone’s needs. Processing would adjust the quantity rather than the dollar amount. Advancement of this proposal would necessitate a change in the 2001-2002 MSE work plan which includes an item providing automatic adjustments for material testing deficiencies.

Arkansas proposed the following enhancements:

- Add review indicator box to diary/DWR authorization window
- Add day of the week indicator on diary/DWR windows.
- Add a generic field to DWR/diary to allow user to enter/track data unique to each agency. InfoTech noted this would affect Pipeline and Zip interfaces as well as SitePad. Arkansas stated this issue could be deleted if the scope was large.
- Add memo data type to SiteManager templates. InfoTech noted this could be done by the state.

Arkansas withdrew the last two proposed enhancements. The other two will be submitted.

Florida noted vendor numbers cannot be changed in SiteManager without defaulting the contractor. When contractors merge, they do not want them to go to DSS as defaulted contractors, but they would like help with this issue. A request will be put on the list server.

Shirley Daugherty noted a Standard Items Group was formed at the TUG in 1999 and continued last year to identify issues that relate to items. The issues were turned into enhancement proposals and were submitted to InfoTech as ballot items the first of October. They will be discussed at the business meeting.

Subcommittee Appointments

Susan Powe will continue to chair the CIRT. Any volunteers for the committee should contact Richard Meador or Susan Powe.

Election of Officers

Officers are elected for two-year terms. Officers were elected last year and will continue for the coming year. Rich will e-mail TAG members to confirm membership and will get the website updated. He stated more time for the TAG meetings would be allotted next year. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.