

Materials TAG Minutes
Oct. 12, 2004

Meeting was called to order shortly after 8:00 AM.

Each person in attendance stated their name and agency, and indicated their role with respect to SiteManager. 13 of the 15 current TAG members were present. Representatives from 17 transportation agencies signed the attendance log. A number of Info Tech's staff also attended. Information on becoming a TAG member was provided. 62 people signed in. Others attended portions of the meeting but did not sign the log.

Last year's minutes were discussed. Members had been asked via e-mail to review and be prepared to make comments as necessary. A motion to accept minutes as posted on the Web was made. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

The Mission Statement was read. Members had been asked via e-mail to review the Mission Statement and be prepared to discuss and change as necessary. A motion was made to accept the Mission Statement as read. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

The Short Range Goals were read. Members had been asked via e-mail to review the Short Range Goals and be prepared to discuss and change as necessary. A motion was made to accept the Short Range Goals as read. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

The Long Range Goals were read. Members had been asked via e-mail to review the Long Range Goals and be prepared to discuss and change as necessary. A motion was made to accept the Long Range Goals as read. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Old Business:

- Contract Sampling and Testing Enhancement - Information was presented regarding the status of the Contract Sampling and Testing Enhancement. The enhancement was funded by AL, CT, IN, MO, NE and TX. It allows significantly more flexibility in the Sampling and Testing Requirements.
- Sample Information Enhancement - Information was presented regarding the status of the Sample Information Enhancement. . The enhancement was funded by AL, AR, CT, IN, MO, NE, NY and TX. It will be released in the August-September 2005 time frame. It includes significant changes in the Sample Information, Inspector (Sampler), Testing Personnel, User Security, Approved Materials and Sample Testers windows.

- Sample Information Enhancement (Big 15) Out-of-Scope - Will also be released next Aug/Sept time frame. There was some general discussion on what would be included in the release; IN funded the addition of Generic Fields on the Materials Detail window, NY funded addition of Standard Attachments on the Producer/Supplier and Producer/Supplier/Plant window, and MO funded the addition of Sample access security.
- There was an offer to discuss other old business? Being none, New Business was introduced.

New Business:

- Standard Templates:
Many of the Standard Test templates built into SiteManager do not work or do not address the test method in the same way the agency would prefer. Most states have made their own test templates using the Materials Custom Test template function so that they can have full control over the content of a template and update it whenever necessary.

The TTF has asked the Materials TAG to determine what course of action should be taken regarding the Standard Test Templates. The question has been raised before however no final determination has been made. The states were queried some time ago and responses were received from eight (8) agencies. Six (6) would like to discontinue all of them, two (2) would like to retain some of the templates. The following issues were discussed.

AASHTO and ASTM may change their testing methods. It is not feasible to expect the current balloting process to see to the modification of the standard templates in SiteManager in a timely and cost efficient manner.

Possible solutions: Remove the templates, keep the templates but discontinue support, continue full support, discontinue support but pay to have them converted into custom templates.

An enhancement TMR can be added to the ballot and voted on as to how to continue if we want them to retain some level of support.

Motion was made to recommend to the TTF that no money be spent to support the existing Standard Templates. The motion was seconded. Additional discussion revolved around why the question has been raised at this time? Motion was reworded to continue support on those templates that currently function correctly. Motion was made that no enhancements be made to the existing Standard Templates.

The motion was ultimately modified to the following: The Materials TAG recommends to the TTF that the Standard Templates in SiteManager be removed from all visible screens and become unsupported with the exception of those templates identified by the TAG as being desirable. These remaining

templates will be supported architecturally but no enhancement be made to them. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote. Four Standard Templates were identified as being routinely "in use":

- 1) T11/T27
- 2) T22/T119/T121/T152/T196
- 3) T238/T239
- 4) T30

- Michigan Enhancement Proposal:
Marty Foster of the Michigan DOT presented a proposal to develop a proposal (i.e. develop the scope of a project) to address a number of issues with SiteManager, FieldManager, and generic LIM Systems. This included the ability to sync a LIMS system with SiteManager as well as FieldManager. Marty emphasized that this is not a proposal for another piece of software to license, but is intended to be an enhancement to SiteManager, and, if necessary FieldManager. Currently there is no official proposal and no scope for the enhancement. A Steering Committee will be formed to ensure that the product meets the needs of the SiteManager community. Agencies interested in funding the project or in providing input and recommendations should contact either Denis Glascock or Marty Foster.
- Enhancement TMRs: One of the first questions was "what is the price range for small, medium and large?" Brad Parks provided that information to the group. The TMRs were read and discussed.
 1. 3665- Send Internet emails from within SiteManager
 - Related to 7152. **It was determined that 3665 and 7152 should be combined.**
 2. 4366 – Improve Edit Mask on Quantity Field
 - Related to 3073 and 8126, all can be combined and deleted when the change has been made. See next bullet.
 - **The TTF has already directed ITI to address this and the changes are in the process of being made for all numeric fields.** This should be released with version 3.6.
 3. 5289 – Copy Sample
 - **This was discussed and is considered undesirable by some agencies.**
 4. 5461- Could not find on ballot
 5. 5570 - Filter not working on some windows
 6. 5986 – No way to delete RTF templates, conf, or param files

- The work around is to delete the template from the server itself. This would have to be done by an administrator.
 - **This TMR was withdrawn by the sponsor agency.**
7. 6568 – Sample Type should be a parameter on the Find Sample screen
- Another possibility suggested was to display the sample type on the "open" function for the window. This solution might apply, depending on the agencies needs.
8. 6573 – Material Templates should have header/detail/multi-line functionality
- Asking for the same functions that are available in DWR templates.
 - Related to 6586. **It was determined that 6573 and 6586 should be combined.**
9. 6584 – Allow de-activation of material test templates at the global level
- Will allow old templates to be hidden from the user when adding a new test template that should be used in its place.
10. 6585 – Modify the way material tests are associated to material codes
- Similar to other windows in SiteManager.
11. 7152 – Create a Sys generated e-mail message through the DOT's native mail
- **See 3665 above.**
 - The two TMR's will be combined.
12. 7159 – Add attachment funct. To the Prod/Suppl Windows
- This will be part of SM 3.6a.
 - **The TMR is withdrawn by the sponsor agency.**
13. 7193 – Cannot "RE"-generate Contract Sampling & Testing Requirements
- Related to 7194.
 - **It was determined that 7193 and 7194 should be combined.**
14. 7195 – Cannot automatically substitute one material for another in CS&TR
- No discussion.
15. 7196 – No options are allowed during the Generate process for CS&TR
- No discussion.
16. 7197 – No way to associate a tested to a specific Lab

- Became more complex than originally thought.
- 17. 7247 – Spell check for DWR record work item remarks
 - Was voted 3rd last year but was not fixed.
- 18. 8045 – Ability to specify a default value for Sample Status field
 - **The TMR is withdrawn by the sponsor agency.**
 - A variation will be included in SM 3.6a
- 19. 8080 – Add a print button to the Sample Information Test Template window.
 - Current functionality does not print a formatted page.
 - Some clarification will be made as to what is desired.
 - This TMR has been rewritten and is attached below.
- 20. 8081 – Modify the window to allow display of all materials associated with an item.
- 21. 8126 – Highlight numeric column when it receives focus
 - **See 4366.**
 - Will be included in 3.6
- 22. 6987 – Inactivated specifications and gradations should not show
 - **This was on the error TMR list and will be moved to Enhancements, where it belongs.**
- New Ballot Items added by the TAG
 1. Add generic field to Basic Sample Data tab of the Maintain Sample Information window. See below for more detail.
 2. Add the standard generic fields to the Properties tab of the Mix Design window. See below for more detail.
 3. Gradations folder tab of material detail. Would like to add a description column to be displayed adjacent to the Effective Date. Effective Date does not always provide enough information for a user to determine which test or test specification should be selected.
 - This is related to TMR 6987, but enough different that it should be considered separately.
 - See below for more detail.
- Repair TMRs
 - Send Rhonda an email indicating which repair TMR's are your priorities.

Other new business / Issues from the floor

Nothing was presented.

Election of Officers:

Nominations from the floor for TAG Chairperson:

A motion was made and seconded for Rhonda Debutts. No other nominations were made. Motion was passed by voice vote that the selection be made by acclimation.

Nominations from the floor for TAG Vice-Chairperson:

A motion was made and seconded for Leah Brigman. No other nominations were made. Motion was passed by voice vote that the selection be made by acclimation.

Motion to Adjourn?

A motion was made to adjourn at 11:32. Motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Ballot Changes and Additions.

TMR 8080 Description Modification

Submitted by Mississippi Department of Transportation, October 13, 2004

The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) is requesting that a print button is added to the Sample Information window, Tests folder Tab, Material Test Template Usage window. The purpose of this print button is to allow users to print a copy of the test template and test results in the same format as the template is structured. This enhancement should include the following functionality:

- Print button included in the toolbar and File menu options.
- When the user selects the print option, the template data will automatically print to the machine's default printer in the same format as the template. The printout will contain a header, body, and footer.
 - The header will contain the following data: State Agency Name (standard report heading) , Sample ID, Sample Date, Log Date, Material ID and Name, P/S Name, Lab Name, and Contract Data (if associated with the sample. The header on the standard lab report available in SiteManager should be used as a guideline.
 - The body of the printout will display the data captured as it appears on the template display window.
 - The footer will contain the following data: Standard and Disposition Remarks, Authorization User ID and Date, as well as signature lines (including date line). The footer on the standard lab report available in SiteManager should be used as a guideline.

This enhancement would provide several benefits. Agencies that require test reports in a specific format would not have to rely on the standard lab report format or create custom reports in addition to creating the custom templates. Users who cannot complete the test directly next to the computer could print a blank template to capture data and later enter into the application, preventing agencies from having to create test cards in addition to the custom templates.

MDOT has already incorporated this enhancement into their SiteManager environment, and would be willing to share the code changes to include this functionality in the standard product.

TMR 6567 Modification

Submitted by Materials TAG and approved by the sponsor, October 12, 2004

Add description field to two areas in the Material Detail window.

- 1) In the Test Tab of the Material Detail window, in the Services menu; Material Specifications can be added to a test method. The specification is designated with an Effective Date. The users would like to have a description column added, whereby the user can further define the material specification with an alphanumeric description.
- 2) In the Gradations Tab of the Material Detail window, when defining a set of gradations for a specific material codes, the specification is also designated with an Effective Date. The users would like to have a description column added, whereby the user can further define the material specification with an alphanumeric description.

The column added in each instance should allow entry of 40 characters.

- 3) The description associated with the Effective Date in each case should be displayed anywhere in SiteManager that the Effective Date is currently displayed including when "enter/view test data" is chosen in the Services menu of the test folder tab of the Maintain Sample Information window.

TMR 3665 / 7152 Modification SiteManager using Agency E-mail

Submitted by Materials TAG, October 12, 2004

(TMRs 3665 and 7152 should also include the following features.)

Send Internet e-mail from within SiteManager

There should be a system parameter to indicate which e-mail system an agency wishes SiteManager to use to send all SiteManager system generated messages. The current in-box process would continue to function as it does now.

The estimate approval message will be sent to only the User identified on the Contractor Payment Approval Level and must have contract specific or office with contract authority.

The native mail system message would NOT have the ability to act as a workflow manager by jumping directly into SiteManager at the appropriate panel.

TMR ??? Generic Fields in Sample Information

Submitted by Materials TAG, October 12, 2004

Add generic fields to the Maintain Sample Information window. Prior to the addition of this feature, active SiteManager user agencies should be polled to determine best combination of generic field types.

TMR ??? Generic Fields in Superpave Mix Design

Submitted by Materials TAG, October 12, 2004

Add generic fields to the properties folder tab in the Superpave mix design area. The numeric generic fields will need to function the same as the existing fields in this window in that, when creating custom Mix Design Material Test templates, when the Superpave Mix Design table name

is chosen, the generic fields will be available in the Mix Design column name drop down list. The data in the generic numeric fields will function the same as the existing fields in this window in that, the values will compare to the test data entered in custom mix design Material Test templates

The following people signed the attendance sheet:

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