TIC Conference Call
Tuesday August 27, 2013
11 a.m. PT

**Attendees**

CS Chris Stephens  
DN Doug Neuhauser  
DO David Oppenheimer  
DW Dave Wilson  
EY Ellen Yu  
FC Faria Chowdhury  
MT Mary Templeton  
PA Prabha Acharya  
PC Philip Crotwell  
RB Relu Berlacu  
SK Sue Kientz  
SZ Stephane Zuzlewski  
VT Valerie Thomas

**Meeting Discussion**
Meeting topics are summarized below, with some issues and suggestions explained in more detail.

**Developer Update**

**Station XML**
The extension to Station XML will be ready soon. We’re close to the point where we can start developing on it. The sub-TIC of Renate, Stephane, and Philip have been engaged in this task along with developers. PA is next working on the loader to load RSN data into SIS. Members of the sub-TIC will write some sample XML for that, to test the loading capability into SIS.

**Issue:** Where are we on taking that same Station XML document and using it to load into AQMS? Do we need an AQMS loader?

SZ: It’s sufficient right now to import into AQMS.

**Issue:** Another upcoming task is to develop an AQMS reader of Station XML.

EY: Pete Lombard (in the CISN Standards Call) said he would be able to do a reader. That can be taken up at the next Standards Call.

DO: For groups like Northern Calif. operators, would we generate Station XML for loading SIS, or wouldn’t you go directly from hardware and response tables?

RB: For the initial population you would generate Station XML from our HT and IR schema, and then later on you guys will use the user interface to update anything. It would only be for the initial import into SIS.

**Dataless Seed Assumptions results**

EY reports that regarding concerns about using the channel flags field (Blockette 52), people agreed to use flags like Continuous and Triggered, basically “Channel Type,” which is information we can derive from SIS. It appears to be OK with this group that we didn’t populate values of “Experimental” which would be a local use of that channel. People were at least willing to consider using abbreviation blockettes, and northern California says they would like to have the response continuous, even if the hardware changed underneath, if the response is the same. That is one consideration we need in producing dataless SEED.
IRIS has produced a beta dataless SEED to Station XML converter and vice versa. So for the next version of SIS, since we are going to be producing Station XML, we plan to use this to produce the dataless SEED. No one appears to have tried out this beta product, but testing it and providing feedback on it is welcomed and encouraged by Chad Trabant.

**Inventory Status**


In SIS we can of course track a piece of equipment’s status, and this status can be epoched, and the Owner and Operator tracked. Over time we realized that the first two statuses, “alive” and “dead,” were insufficient, so we broke them out into more categories. We now believe that even the expanded list we’ve developed is not quite sufficient either, and so in this discussion we are hoping to determine what Inventory status codes would be desired by the group. The list of current Inventory status designations was provided at the above URL (although the list at the above location has now been updated to reflect this meeting’s discussion).

**Suggestions/Issues from the Discussion:**

FC: Most equipment needs to be “readied” before installation. Perhaps some things can go directly from on-the-shelf to installed (e.g., a battery). Discussion ensued that “readied” might not reflect that something is “configured” and ready in that sense.

Discussion participants were overall unsatisfied with the idea of “on the shelf” status, because it does not tell you anything, and requires you to change the status (a second time) to provide more specific information for the equipment in question. Perhaps “Unknown” is a more clear status for that particular general state.

DN: A piece of equipment would not go from Installed to E-waste. VT: You’re right, something would sit on the shelf for 6-18 months while Property sorts out if something existed in the first place, or whether or not it can go to e-waste.

VT: Let’s assemble a list of status codes, and then pass that list to one or more field engineers from each RSN (nominated by the RSN), and ask for feedback from them to see what codes would be helpful to them. DN: Field engineers and/or managers.

Various names for different states were suggested and noted down during the ensuing discussion (now updated at [http://maui.gps.caltech.edu/SIStrac/wiki/SIS/SpecRules/Inventorystates](http://maui.gps.caltech.edu/SIStrac/wiki/SIS/SpecRules/Inventorystates)).

Another discussion centered on relinquishing ownership/operatorship/possession to “ANSS Depot.”

- FC: If the equipment is returned to ANSS depot and sent to another RSN, you’d see in the next epoch (after you have “returned it to ANSS”) that it has a new operator.

- Discussion continued on how best to transfer something that is in one RSN’s possession, to ANSS, and/or to another RSN.

- There should be a “state transition” – in both directions, going to and coming from ANSS. One would be a close-out state leaving a regional network, and a similar state going the other way, which would definitely be needed if ANSS/ASL was a SIS user.
• The group decided that there are different kinds of relinquishing, of which ANSS Depot is just one option; suggested that there be a “Transfer to new operator,” and then in the Operator field, you then choose the new Operator.

• Sending equipment to the ANSS depot or even to another RSN, should entail having some sort of “accept” process being a necessary part of that transfer as shown in SIS (e.g., a positive hand-off control system).

• Problems with something as simple as typos in equipment transfers was expressed as a key concern. VT relayed that photographing serial number labels is one way to clear up such discrepancies.

Privacy was raised as an issue: how much of other people’s information should be visible by everybody else? We earlier had talked about segmenting off certain areas of people’s data. Related to this is the question of who gets to edit a serial number (which is not epoched), the owner and/or the operator? Will people want to have their field notes open? Or equipment logs? Something to think about, and needs further discussion.

DN recalled that in previous discussion there were two ideas presented in terms of the control of viewing information. First, what would show up in the GUI would be only things in your possession. That’s not a privacy issue, but a mechanism to keep people from only selecting or editing their own equipment. Regarding private information, he recalls we decided not to put sensitive information in the database. FC: You could also put a link to sensitive information, which would go to a server that would only be accessible by an RSN’s authorized staff.

Resolved: FC will update the Inventory Status list web page with the new suggestion status names. SK will collect e-mail addresses of field engineers suggested by their RSNs, and those people will be asked to provide feedback on (and possibly additions to) the new Inventory status codes.

Functional Spec Update

(Web page on wiki: http://maui.gps.caltech.edu/SIStrac/wiki/SIS/FuncSpec/1.0):

Time ran out, so the above document will be discussed at the September meeting.

The next meeting is September 24, 2013, at 11 a.m., same phone information as always.

If you have something you’d like to discuss at next meeting, send Valerie a note by September 19.

Accessing the Meeting Recording

If you wish, you can listen to the recording of the meeting by calling 1-703-648-4848, conf. code 38103. After you enter into an empty meeting, press *3. You will be prompted for the meeting recording code, which is 0012.

When prompted, jump 4 minutes into the recording to get to the very start of the meeting. To stop playback, press *3.

You cannot pause or reverse/fast forward the playback. You can only stop playback and start it again (*3), then jump to a later minute.