TIC Conference Call
Tuesday September 24, 2013
11 a.m. PT

Attendees
CS Chris Stephens  PA Prabha Acharya
DO David Oppenheimer  PC Philip Crotwell
DW Dave Wilson  RH Renate Hartog
EY Ellen Yu  RB Relu Berlacu
FC Faria Chowdhury  SK Sue Kientz
MT Mary Templeton  SZ Stephane Zuzlewski

Valerie Thomas could not attend the meeting at the last minute, so Ellen Yu served as meeting moderator.

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

Developer Update

Inventory Status Codes
Some feedback was received from SCSN field engineers, which yielded a few more suggested inventory states. Updated list at http://maui.gps.caltech.edu/SIStrac/wiki/SIS/SpecRules/Inventorystates. New states suggested are

- Needs Testing
- Pending Disposal

Also suggested was to rename “E-Waste” to “Disposed.” The group agreed on these changes. There was some question that the transitions might be a little micromanaged. FC asked the group to let developers know if there were any other additions needed to the above schematic, e.g., addition of a line that would allow “Retired in Place” to transition to “Disposed.”

FC also asked if “Transfer on Loan” is needed. Once equipment is transferred, the Operator name is changed (Owner remains the same). Is that sufficient? Is all transferred equipment essentially on loan? DO observed that “Transfer” and “Transfer on Loan” were two distinct states. Nevertheless, the group seemed to find no distinction between these states if you consider that “Transfer” is basically transferring Operatorship. “Transfer” will remain unchanged.

Proposed state “Surplussed” was rejected.

Station XML Schema Status
PA reports that the last Station XML schema revision was sent out last week. Perhaps once development starts in earnest, any holes in the schema will be uncovered and addressed. Work on the loader has begun. Requirements for loading data into SIS and exchanging data with CISN partners was separated into two schema extension documents.

EY polled the group and found that no one has tried to do any development of a Station XML writer. She pointed out that as Prabha is working on a Station XML writer into SIS, and since the hope is to have that available by the beginning of next year, we are looking to the RSNs to produce their own Station XML writers and in turn be able to then upload at
least some sample data. Without some sample data to play with once the loader is ready, we won’t be able to get complete feedback on how any of the development is going, including the inventory status codes.

• By the time the loader is developed, the UI will support Views of the new schema, e.g., RSNs will be able to at least view their data and see if it is falling into the right buckets.

• Manipulation and updates of data are expected at the end of Q1, i.e., late March-early April 2014. That would be doing the full suite of field operations.

• Therefore, the Developers will want sample Station XML data from RSNs around December 2013.

DO wanted to review the process for networks using AQMS. He assumed there would be an option to use tables to populate SIS, e.g., Oracle to Oracle migration. EY said there had seemed to be consensus with the Data Loading group that we would use Station XML. DO felt that the Station XML writer should be passed by the Standards committee so there isn’t more than one XML writer, and then everyone running AQMS can use that. PC pointed out that nobody uses the same inventory database so the writer would still have to be customized. SZ agrees and says for example that their own database requires them to develop a tool that won’t be useful to anybody else. RH wonders if the writer could be developed to be a bit abstract so that pieces of code could be reused. SZ said perhaps; since No. Calif. already has an FDSN Station XML they were going to adapt/extend it as needed. A question was asked whether they could set up a conversion where Dataless SEED could be ‘read out’ into Station XML. PC said that you can always get a base-level state by querying and getting Station XML, but it won’t have the inventory stuff in it. The writer would be what would populate that part. DO then said that is going to be tricky because No. Calif’s inventory is not in the IR tables; it’s not even on scraps of paper. There’s work to be done there. EY concludes that there’s not much uniformity of data sources and wonders if the group could share some methodology via e-mail. Because it sounds like people will not be able to use someone else’s code, EY proposes that the TIC continue to track this topic each month and check on progress.

**Functional Spec Update**

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

**General comments:** None.

EY wanted feedback for developers on the Station Lists, coda magnitudes, and clipping parameters, which are not well set (speaking from a very AQMS-centric view). Should these belong in SIS? Comments:

DO: You need broader input from more than the people on this call.

RH: (RE: Amplitude clipping parameters) yes, I would want that in there, but couldn’t it be in one of those setting fields?

EY: In the AQMS database, they are set by channel. We don’t know how we would determine those parameters, however. Are those based on response?

RH: You can’t always tell through just the response. RE: EpiSensors, 2Gmax and 4Gmax, the maximum voltage output can be different. There’s no one-to-one relationship.

EY: That makes it hard to derive this number. Or does the analyst put this number in for every channel. I’ll put this in a more general e-mail for feedback from the community.
Regarding Station Lists, in terms of RSNs: In So. Calif we maintain our own set of station, but then we import a greater set of stations from neighboring networks that are not maintained by us. So the question is, should SIS maintain these lists of what RSNs are importing from other RSNs. Or if this is better kept at the local level?

No preference was expressed, with comment made by PC that this was perhaps beyond the scope of SIS, which is more about inventory and field operations.

EY encouraged everyone to review the Functional Spec and note how some items are marked “For Later Implementation.” If any of those designated items are going to be problematic if delayed, we need to hear about it.

The next meeting is October 15, 2013, at 11 a.m., same phone information as always.

If you have something you’d like to discuss at next meeting, send Sue Kientz a note by October 11.

**Accessing the Meeting Recording**

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When prompted, jump 3 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.