

TECHNICAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

This report summarises activities at present underway within the UTMC technical area.

Upkeep of the Technical Specification

The Technical Specification consultation (technically a Peer Review under Government rules) was launched on 30 September 2008. A few items of feedback have been received but these are minor (essentially editorial).

The additional work areas that we were tracking are as follows:

- ANPR MIB: we had a working meeting at Halcrow offices in London on 9 October 2008; CA and PIPS were both present, as were CRS and Cloud Amber. Despite suggestions, Siemens were not invited, though Halcrow have undertaken to include them in future. I was able to attend only the first couple of hours. I have not seen any meeting notes yet – I am chasing.
- XML schema: we had a very constructive discussion at Tenet's offices in Horsham on 7 October. Present were Tenet, Peek, Siemens, Mott Macdonald, Acis and me; Joself Kaltwasser had been asked to contribute on behalf of the HA/DATEX perspective, and although he had been unable to attend in person he had circulated some detailed comments ahead of the meeting. As a result of this, and with S&SG approval, a small task has been placed with Mott Macdonald to export an XML framework from the UML model in the draft Tech Spec update, based on the rules developed for DATEX II. The next meeting is set for 25 November.

Joint Technical Group

By agreement, no JTG meeting has been held this period. However arising from the XML meeting, I sent Ian Cornwell a copy of the new draft SIRI component on "situations" in order to allow review against DATEX, and against UTMC's structures in incidents and accidents.

SIRI is already under consideration for the transmission aspects of XML (eg subscription on data feeds etc)

UML in the Objects Registry

There are three outstanding issues arising from MM's UML Registry work:

- Some of the definitions are unclear, and a proposal of two days' work to "tidy" these has been received.
- There are a small number of unresolved areas arising from discussion among suppliers during the informal consultation (see spreadsheet attached).
- Suppliers have expressed a desire for an online version of the UML model.

Following discussions last time, MM have been tasked to respond to the first and second of these (the second as far as practical within the current Tech Spec consultation process).

On the third point, MM have been contracted to deliver the raw files from their UML design tool (MagicDraw). At the XML workshop on 7 October, it was generally accepted that it would be simpler and cheaper – as well as more reliable in the long term – for suppliers that really needed design access to simply acquire the MagicDraw package, rather than to export it (and any

upissues) in a form suitable for import into other tools. The cost is understood to be modest (a few hundred pounds per licence).

Accordingly, the concept of a web-based set of linked html pages has been dropped.

Developing a web-based version of the product catalogue

The catalogue has been opened up to population by suppliers, in the lead-up to the Conference. As previously flagged, suppliers whose products are in the existing Word™ Product Register were contacted individually.

A few interface issues have arisen and Halcrow is working with us to resolve them.

Security guidelines

No activity this period.

Technical Framework Contract

The issue of how to go about establishing framework contracts was raised at the last Management Group meeting (24 September). The clear advice was that, now we have a simple mechanism to do it, we should keep this in our back pocket. In other words, rather than have a "call for interest", we should wait until there is a need and then the necessary steps to identify, invite and contract bidders that suit the situation.

MARK CARTWRIGHT

29 OCTOBER 2008