

Development Team Report

June 14, 2006

The Development Team is actively working on three projects, engaged on 2 others, and investigating one possible new start. These projects are all activities begun prior to the creation of the NBIMS project and represent either existing industry practice or projects funded to solve specific information exchange projects.

1) Construction Operations Building Information Exchange (COBIE). A draft standard and plan for full information exchange through incremental additions to the baseline COBIE2006 standard is nearing completion. Construction specifications to implement the standard are being developed. Expected completion date for an official package to be provided to NIBMS executive is 1 Oct 06. The following companies have agreed to present COBIE-related applications at IAI Industry Day in Nov 2006.

a) InStep software have agreed to do a simulated case study where typical information from their energy management system would be evaluated to determine the time required to hand-load data into their energy management CMMS versus the time required to upload the same data using COBIE. They will also address the requirements for checking COBIE data quality in their case study.

b) Burns and McDonald have volunteered to take NAVFAC OMSI data and provide examples in COBIE format. This demonstration will be used to identify any issues they have with the COBIE standard from the point of view of differences between OMSI and COBIE and the ability to capture COBIE data during the construction process.

c) another CMMS vendor has agreed to complete a simulation case study comparing manual and COBIE information processes. The vendor will be named following confirmation by technical staff.

d) the specifications for testing on projects at two federal agencies are also being finalized. Pilot tests are expected to be undertaken later this summer. Mr. Bill Brodt (NASA) and Mr. Tor Brunso (USACE) are the points of contact for these pilots.

e) a meeting July 5th is scheduled with all stakeholders to finalize any remaining issues pertaining to the COBIE2006 standard.

2) Preliminary Design Information Exchange. Work progresses on a volunteer basis, funding need to move this forward.

3) Code Checking. The standard for embedding tags within code test is being finalized. Embedded code tagging selected since there would be less controversy regarding the legal meaning of an "extracted" set of indexes. A demonstration of automated code checking on an IFC model is expected to be ready for IAI Industry Day Nov 2006.

4) Structural Steel Design. The existing standard for structural steel design (CIS/2) can be incorporated into NBIMS by mapping the existing standard into the IFC model. Mr. Steve Hopper from Wolpert has volunteered to lead this effort.

5) Ductwork Fabrication. The existing standard for ductwork fabrication (ductXML) can be incorporated into NBIMS by mapping the existing standard into the IFC model. Mr. Roger Grant from CSI has volunteered to lead this effort.

6) Construction Scheduling. The existing standard for construction scheduling (SDEF) can be incorporated into NBIMS by mapping the existing standard into the IFC model. Team leader needed for this project.

These projects are currently self-funded by constituents interested in the outcome(s) of the projects. Generally, these projects will result in the creation of implementation standards. Fully IFC compliant reference standards will, generally, need to be funded through NBIMS. Future taskings from Scoping Team and funding from the ExCom are provided NBIMS Development Team can begin working on new areas of information exchange.

Another topic that should be addressed by the ExCom is the need for the Development Team to create a short document describing the methodology for NBIMS Development that can be used by Development Team project leaders (and if appropriate by members of the Scoping Team). This document should be funded by NBIMS ExCom so that Development Team's activities can go beyond efforts that need to be centrally managed by current Development Team leadership and/or International Model Support Group personnel.

- Bill

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