

UDG Specifications and Standards Group Notes of a Meeting

Meeting particulars

Meeting held: 11:00 on 5th September 2008 by telephone conference.

The following were present:

- Mark Bodger, Siemens
- Mark Cartwright, Centaur Consulting *Secretary*
- Chrysi Kirtay, Centaur Consulting
- Brendan Mason, Tenet Technology
- Martin Siczkowski, Acis
- Derek Renaud, TfL *Chair*
- Hamilton Purdie, Glasgow CC

The following were not able to participate:

- Brent Collier, Sheffield CC
- Laurie Egan, Norfolk CC
- Andrew Hancock, Stoke-on-Trent CC
- Martin Porter, Lancashire CC
- John Redmond, Warrington BC
- Ivan Wells, Highways Agency

1 Welcome and introductions

Action

- 1.1 The agenda was confirmed and members were welcomed to the S&SG.
- 1.2 MC reported that Peek had expressed disappointment that they no longer had access to S&SG. It was explained that they had missed the "election" earlier in the year owing to email problems. After confirming that there was no constitutional limit to three supplier members, it was agreed to invite them to subsequent meetings.

MC

[NB: this obtains for the current year's S&SG operations – we need to consider the process for S&SG membership for next year]

2 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

- 2.1 The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

3 Technical Secretary's report

- 3.1 See also elsewhere in the minutes.
- 3.2 There was no progress on the traffic counter MIB or the rising bollard MIB. It was agreed to stop driving these actively. It was not clear what further was required on traffic counters – as this originated in a Scottish project HP will try to find out.

HP

- 3.3 Regarding ANPR, the group is keen to make progress. MC will keep trying to move this forward with Halcrow, and will separately contact PIPS to clarify the IPR of their paper from earlier in the year. **MC**
- 3.4 A follow-up workshop on ANPR may be appropriate to help move things ahead. **MC**
- 3.5 A key role for this is in journey time data. A Joint Technical Group paper had been produced which presents a “unified” model for JT, but this has no force. MS will put some thoughts together on where this should go next. **MS**
- 3.6 The UML approach of the revised Tech Spec was valued. All suppliers present (BM, MB, MS) would value a web-based presentation of this. Others did not see the case for this, although it was acknowledged that direct access to the model was potentially valuable. (IW had asked for this view to be presented to the meeting for HA.)
- 3.7 MS believes this should be very simple and offered to provide an independent costed proposal for this task. The S&SG is of course under no obligation to accept this. **MS**
- [Note added: the Mott Macdonald proposal includes an optional task of 5 days.]
- 3.8 MS raised the point that there was no explicit support for XML exchange in UTMC: at present it is merely permitted. Much more support on this could be provided, especially with a UML model now available and with SIRI and DATEX etc. **MC**
- 3.9 MC noted that he had tried to encourage the submission of XML schemas to the Tech Spec for many years, without success. It was agreed as a way ahead to hold a broad-based technical workshop to get the ball rolling. As a minimum this should include suppliers present, Peek, MM and HA. **MC**
- 3.10 It was noted that a technical framework contract has been concluded with Mott Macdonald regarding the UML model. It was not considered necessary to have an open call on this. However, the process is one for the MG to determine rather than S&SG. **MC**

4 Compliance

- 4.1 There were no submissions for compliant products during the period.

5 Product catalogue

- 5.1 MC reported that the online version of the product catalogue is almost ready to be populated with products. When this is ready, suppliers will be notified and point to the relevant part of the website. Each sponsor of the current (outdated) Word™-based register will be contacted separately. The aim would be to complete the transfer by the Conference. **MC**

6 Joint Technical Group Activities

- 6.1 The most relevant JTG activities were in the area of XML and journey times (see above).
- 6.2 Regarding the National Technical Framework for ITS, it was confirmed that national guidelines would be very useful. Going beyond surface transport would, however, be unpractical.

7 Technical Specification update

- 7.1 The draft update of the Technical Specification was noted. It was agreed to aim for launch at the upcoming UTMC annual conference (3-4 December). MC reminded the group that we have traditionally stuck to the Government-“good practice” period for public consultation, ie 12 weeks, for formal updates. DR noted that time was too short this time round, but we should try to get the consultation draft out ASAP. **MC**
- 7.2 It was noted that the now-unified UTC MIB was in this draft. This was warmly welcomed.

8 AOB

- 8.1 No AOB items were discussed.

9 Next meetings

- 9.1 The next meeting is on 30 October, from 1400-1530. This would once again be by teleconference.
- 9.2 We should aim to have the following S&SG as a physical meeting.