

## 1450.4 meeting minutes – 10/29/09

**Attendees:** Ernie Wahl, Bruce Parnas, Markus Seuring

**Not present:** Jim O'Reilly, Ajay Khoche

### Agenda:

- IEEE Meeting Preamble (No discussion of proprietary information)
- Minutes from last week's meeting (10/22) now posted on the web.
- No meeting on 10/8 (cancelled by prior notice).
- Discussion items:
  - SpecVariable type.
    - To allow passing spec variables into Tests or Flows.
    - Discussion issues: syntax, semantics, capabilities
    - Summary of discussion:
      - Unanimous: We need NaN as a value type: any variable not explicitly set is initialized to NaN, including variable fields in the Spec/Category hierarchy. Review this in context of unspecified subfields of Spec (i.e., using only Typ, and not Min and Max, selector fields).
      - If only Typ is used, do Min and Max exist? (unclear – need to check with Greg Maston). Does Meas exist? (consensus is that it almost certainly does).
      - Unresolved: Restrictions on SpecVariable type usage:
        - Can a Variables block contain a SpecVariable definition ? If so, do we need initialization syntax for Min/Typ/Max/Meas ?
        - If a Parameter of type SpecVariable can only be a reference to Spec/Cat hierarchy variable, do we allow form 'SpecVariable VAR\_NAME = initial\_value' in Parameter block (denotes optional parameter)
        - Unresolved: Do we want to support TestType name overloading ? Example: TestType TimMeas, one takes Seconds arg the other SpecVariable arg, do they require different names ? What's the effect on library development ? Bruce and Markus think not. Ernie's still evaluating.
  - SignalRefVariable type
    - To allow passing Signal lists (signals, lists of signals, SignalGroups) into Tests or Flows
    - Discussion issues: syntax, semantics, capabilities
    - Discussion of retest proposal (included at the end of the current syntax document).
    - Did not get to this item.
  - Retest proposal – not discussed.
- Other issues:
  - Issues:
  - Conversions from one data type to another – what are the rules? These need to be explicitly defined.
  - Limits as a specific data type?
    - How to specify an open limit on one end of a comparison?
    - Specify >=, >, <=, < - what does the syntax look like?
    - Limits x 0nS >= n <= 3nS
  - List of reserved words by tester type as an integral part of dot4? (should this be a dot3 addition?). Does NameChecks in dot3 cover this, or could it cover it with some extensions.

- Open issues - are there other open issues that should be considered? A review of the open issues list can guide us here.
  - [http://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?key=pEI1-gPUmt2ZTw\\_kcCTgnKw&inv=jim\\_oreilly@ieee.org&t=933048453488551871&guest](http://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?key=pEI1-gPUmt2ZTw_kcCTgnKw&inv=jim_oreilly@ieee.org&t=933048453488551871&guest).
  - If logged into your google account, can edit. If not, can only view
- Other?
- Next Meeting 11/12/09. No formal meeting on 11/05/09 due to ITC.

For reference STIL .4 information can be found at the IEEE STIL website:

<http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/1450/> (select the [P1450.4](#) link from the table) or use the direct link <http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/1450/dot4/index.html>