P1450.4 meeting minutes - 06/22/05

Attendees: Dave Dowding, Ernie Wahl, Jose Santiago, Doug Sprague, Jim O'Reilly, Jim Mosley,

Not present: Tom Micek, Yuhai Ma, Eric Nguyen, Chris Nelson, Oscar Rodriguez, Steve Lill, Tony Taylor, Bob Roberts, Daniel Fan

Agenda:

- Discuss a change in time of the Weekly Conference Call (not a change in the day-of-the-week).
- Milestones and timeframe for the working group moving forward.
- Discussion on the focus of our syntax, use case examples and draft document.
- Re-establish our focused subgroups on syntax, conceptual model, examples, etc.
- Purpose of the weekly conference call and others that may be needed.

Summary from the past several weeks:

- The conference calls on 6/1/05 and 6/8/05 were consumed with discussion of Tony's D14 syntax and the use case (Example 2) that goes along with it. A number of inconsistencies in the syntax itself, and in the use case demonstrating that syntax, were pointed out. We need to clarify our thinking on what concepts we want to represent, how these will be represented in formal syntax, and develop use cases for various scenarios which provide examples of how the syntax can be used. We do seem to be spinning our wheels a bit, and will need to reestablish subgroups to actually work on these issues.
- Due to time constraints, there was no meeting on 6/15/05.

Summary:

- Change of meeting time.
    - Several individuals who haven't been part of the working group are interested in participating, but would like the meeting at a different time (earlier or later on Wednesday). Coupled with the fact that the current time (10:00 am Pacific, 11:00 am Mountain, 1:00 pm Eastern) is now presenting conflicts with some existing working group members, a change of time is needed.
    - Dave proposed that the meeting move to 9:00 am Pacific, 10:00 am Mountain, 12:00 pm Eastern, still on Wedensday mornings.
    - Will communicate this proposal to the WG – actual time may change, depending on feedback. Regardless, Dave will set up new call information and communicate to the WG.
- Milestones. Based on the fact that our PAR extension only runs through early 2006 (as our TTTC sponsor reminded us!), we discussed what milestones we need to reach in order to move forward and complete our work by that date. The attendees agreed on the following:
    - Conceptual model complete – July 15. To be included in ballot document as an informative section. (Dave's input).
    - Outline of draft document (sections and clauses to be included) – July 15 (Jose's suggestion).
    - Create a glossary of terms (from the conceptual model and other sources) – Aug. 1
    - Formal syntax complete (syntax description, explanation of syntax constructs, at least one example) – Sept. 1 (Jim's input).
    - Additional use cases and examples complete - Nov. 1 (in time for ITC).
    - Document complete, ready for ballot - Jan 2006

- Discussion on our approach to developing this standard (focus on conceptual model, syntax, use case examples and draft document).
    - We want to keep an object-oriented approach (especially conceptually, as one of our goals is to facilitate reuse of objects), but we don't want to get bogged down in implementation details (i.e., how one would actually implement a system which executed the program, flow, and test methods in a language such as C++).

- Recognizing that development of the standard is an iterative process, we want our development efforts to have a three-pronged approach, encompassing a conceptual mode, a formal syntax and use cases.
- Development will almost certainly require iteration back and forth through those components.
  - Prove (?) (Provide?) the conceptual model that introduces the syntax.
  - Define the syntax.
  - Build use case(s) with example code to verify the syntax and show how it will be used.

- Re-establish our focused subgroups on syntax, conceptual model, examples, etc.
  - Conceptual model subgroup – will request that Ernie lead this group
  - Syntax subgroup – request that Tony lead this group. Tony has agreed to do so.
  - Examples subgroup – will request that Bob Roberts lead this group.

- Purpose of the weekly conference call and others that may be needed.
  - We agreed that we didn't want to use the weekly full subgroup conference call as a forum for actually doing the work, and discussing the issues, but rather as a forum for reporting status/progress, and synchronizing efforts among the subgroups
  - We will (eventually) need to set up some one-time calls with the full WG to review subgroup submissions. These calls will be set up as needed.
  - Subgroups will be responsible to setting up whatever calls they need to meet their goals, following our three-pronged approach of conceptual model, formal syntax definition, and use cases.

- 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