

P1450.4 meeting minutes - 09/21/05

Attendees: Jim O'Reilly, Bob Roberts, Ernie Wahl, SB Thum, Doug Sprague, Dave Dowding, Jim Mosley, Oscar Rodriguez

Not present: Tom Micek, Yuhai Ma, Eric Nguyen, Steve Lill, Tony Taylor, Chris Nelson, Jose Santiago, Daniel Fan

Summary:

- Walk through latest version of syntax document with full WG. Discuss the changes:
 - Change name of TestObjectDefs block to TestNode. TestMethodDefs block is retained (as an interface specification to external libraries).
 - Clearly delineate between types (TestFlow, TestNode) and instances of those types (instantiated by the TestInstances statement in TestProgram and TestFlow).
 - Addition of Timing, DCLevels, DCSets, and PatternBurst statements in TestProgram, TestFlow, and TestNode – to complement the Category and Selector statements which already exist at each of those levels.
- There seems to be some confusion introduced by the fact the names used for various constructs are changing often (i.e., the TestObject has been renamed to TestNode)
- Also, Ernie noted that for him, the syntax seems to be moving farther and farther away from the conceptual model. The issues are summarized well by Ernie's email of Fri 9/23/2005 (subject: [STDS-1450.4:] stds-1450.4: conceptual-model/syntax synchronization).
 - The continued inclusion of TestMethodDefs block (to provide an interface to an external library) seems to deviate from the conceptual model.
 - The (mis?)labelling of TestNode – should really be called TestMethod.
 - The fact that TestFlow is not treated specific type of TestMethod (TestNode), derived from the generic TestMethod (TestNode).
- On the other hand, other changes were reasonably well-received – in particular, the clear distinction between types and instances provided by the use of the TestInstances keyword.
- Overall, a lively discussion which pointed out a number of areas where we all need to reconcile our thinking among ourselves, to get agreement on the conceptual model, and to get the conceptual model and the syntax in agreement.

Actions:

- Jim to summarize comments in minutes, and take them back to the syntax subgroup for further discussion/action.

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>