1450.4 meeting minutes - 07/31/08

Attendees: Jim O'Reilly, Bruce Parnas

Not present: Ajay Khoche, Doug Sprague, Ernie Wahl, Jose Santiago, Kevin Coggins

Agenda:

- Preamble:
  - Record Meeting (*2) (call not recorded, since we did not have a quorum)
  - IEEE Meeting Preamble (No discussion of proprietary information).
- Discuss and agree on semantics for Stop action (and its counterpart, SetBinStop). Two possibilities are:
  - Immediate stop from whatever block is currently executing - Test, Flow (executed from EntryPoint), Flow (executed from FlowNode - i.e., a subflow) - and return to EntryPoint level for end-of-test processing. If the Stop is issued from within a Test, the PostActions and ExitPort actions of its enclosing FlowNode, and the PostActions, PassActions, or FailActions of the Flow containing the FlowNode, are not executed, for instance.
  - Stop any further execution thread in the current block, and return to the enclosing block, execute any PostActions, PassActions or FailActions (if enclosing block is a Test or Flow) or PostActions and ExitPort Actions (if enclosing block is a FlowNode), following these rules for returning until the initiating EntryPoint is reached - at which point end-of-test processing is done.
- Discuss and agree on defaults for TestBase (in particular, the defaults for FailActions), and for FlowNodes.
  - One suggestion was to use SetBinStop as the default FailAction for TestBase (meaning it applies to Flows and Tests).
  - Another suggestion is to use SetBin as the default FailAction for TestBase (for Tests and Flows), and have the Stop action (or SetBinStop action) be a part of the default FlowNode.
- Latest syntax document (D22 - posted on web), and Ernie's StdTypeExample.txt (also on web) will be used as reference.
- Next Meeting 08/07/08.

Summary:

Only Jim and Bruce called in. After about 35 minutes, we gave up on the others. During that time, however, we discussed how OTPL worked in context of the issues stated above.

- Binning is an action handled by the FlowNode (FlowItem, in OTPL parlance). Binning in OTPL is not a terminal event - that is, execution can continue, chaining to the next flow node in the flow, or returning to the caller (either a calling flow, or the system routine which initiated the test plan).
- Each FlowNode exit port (FlowItem) has a Pass/Fail attribute. From the OTPL manual:

  - A *Property Action* to set string valued entities that are used by GUI tools to attribute results. This can be seen in the above `FlowTest1` example with:

    ```
    Property PassFail = "Pass";
    ```

  - Properties are basically named string or integer valued entities that are associated with a Result clause. There can be any number of them, and they are used by tools such as GUIs which a user would use to display information associated with this result. They have no effect on the actual result of the test, or the flow of the test.This attribute is used to determine the overall device pass/fail status.

- A FlowNode Exit Port (FlowItem Result clause) can contain a Return statement. This returns an integer to the caller (either the EntryPoint, or a calling Flow/FlowNode). Typically, a return value of 0 indicates pass, and a return value of non-zero indicates fail. The EntryPoints (FlowDefs) treat a return value of 0 as a passing device, and a return value of non-zero as a failing device. This is

the “bubble-up” concept of returning from tests or subflows. There is no direct notion in OTPL for unconditional stops (with associated end-of-test processing, including binning) from nested levels of execution. All execution starts and stops with the Entry Points.

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