

IT Committee Minutes  
April 5, 2004

Attending: Baker, Mish, Mo, Kallivokas, Pancake, Kamrath, Hajjar,  
Horner

1. Response from Board of Directors about our report

Board sent memo to Bill Spencer recommending that the tests be revised to address the concerns of the ITC, and that a "Statement of NEESgrid Functionality" serve as the formal vehicle for the handoff -- rather than NCI issuing a statement of acceptability. The Statement will be submitted by Bill to the Board, certifying completion of the SI product, on or before Sept. 30.

2. New procedure for acceptance

The ITC won't actually review any more test procedure documents unless they address scale, performance, coverage, and compatibility as recommended by the ITC. We need to decide which, if any, test procedures to participate in. The committee as a whole won't be reading all the test result reports; instead, we'll get summary evaluations and recommendations prepared by NCI staff; we will review them and present formal recommendations to the Board.

Should we participate, and how? Apparently, the experiment-based deployment process is not yet scheduled. Cherri will ask Lee if there is a schedule available yet; also when it would make sense for a "user" representative to participate.

3. Update on Transition Committee from Anke

The committee includes SI, NITSC, and user representatives and met in San Diego the beginning of March. They began laying out the tasks to be accomplished in order to have an orderly handoff from the SI to NITSC. There is a draft that is scheduled to be finished some time next week. It includes an agreement about how responsibilities are subdivided between NCI and the SI. There is also a detailed risk assessment and risk management plan; the major concern the group has is if the cash flow is going to be a problem.

Anke will send the document to the ITC once it has gelled (next week) so that we can review it and provide a brief assessment to the Board. The ITC will discuss the draft by email.

4. Change in deadline for Version 3.0

SI sought and got one-month extension from NSF, then informed CD PIs. "Beta" version to be available to "selected equipment sites" as of June 30; 3.0 generally available as of July 31. Cherri will circulate a draft of a note to the Board to let Joy know about several concerns we have because of the way this was done. Why wasn't the Consortium consulted? Why weren't awardees informed at the recent meeting about the change? Did anyone do a risk assessment before making the decision (e.g., impact on transition plan, implications for NITSC budgeting process, impact on IV&V). We are concerned about \*any\* delays in the SI product at this point. We are particularly worried about getting that product hardened on

schedule (even if the feature set is restricted), since we're all aware of how long and difficult the hardening process is. Finally, we'd like to forestall other such "surprises" in these last remaining months of the SI award.

## 5. Other items

The Site Operations Committee is hammering out the shared-use policy. Jerry and Cherri will read the documents to determine if there is a need for ITC input.

Cherri reported on the status of the IV&V (Independent Validation & Verification) effort that has been subawarded to HPTi. In view of NITSC's decision to conform to CMM (Capability Maturity Model) standards, the HPTi scope of work was modified somewhat. In addition to providing a report with recommendations to the SI, they will also prepare a document for NITSC that can be used as foundation for our future CMM efforts.

The question came up about the impact of the Release 3.0 delay. Cherri and Ian have already requested that HPTi be included as one of the "sites" to receive the beta version on June 30. The SI's response indicates that they are nervous about the whole IV&V effort. Jerry will try to discuss the benefits of including HPTi with the SI. (He is also working with HPTi to make sure they acquire the appropriate hardware and documentation that they will need.)

## 6. Next meeting

Thursday, May 20 (at Annual Meeting), 3-5 PDT

Possible agenda items:

- \* Update on transition process
- \* Invite Executive Director to participate and discuss first thoughts about the schedule for ramping up IT
- \* Possible interaction with SOC
- \* Discussions related to prioritization process (e.g., alternative scenarios)

Cherri will get back to everyone about the phone number to be used to dial into the meeting.