

STAGEnet Management Committee Minutes

March 5, 2003

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

DCN Conference Room, NDSU EML 183 & UND Gamble Hall 120

Present: Joan Chapek, Jody French, Cheri Giesen, Jerry Fossum, John Grosen, Bonnie Jundt, Rosi Klobberdanz, Boris Miller and Jerry Rostad and Glen Rutherford.

Absent: Mike Abel, Roger Hertz, Dorette Kerian and Darrin King,

ITD Strategic Business Plan

ITD has published a strategic business plan and is currently working on the goals outlined in the plan. Goal 1 is to better define ITD services. The result of this goal is to prioritize services and have service level objectives.

Focus Groups

There will three focus groups K-12, Higher Ed. and state government. A meeting with the K-12 group has been scheduled and the remainder of the meetings will be held before the next Management Committee meeting. The purpose of these focus groups is for more representation and input to STAGEnet and also for the Management Committee to focus time on decisions and compromises.

Technical support - hours of operation: after hours, weekends, holidays

Grant suggested that the issue of after hours technical support be taken up with the Executive Committee. Jerry R. wanted to know if there are STAGEnet hours of operation. Jody indicated the EDUTech is closed on holiday and they have voice mail during those times and there haven't been any problems yet. Rosi stated that support is provided for the resources they have after hours, it is communicated that there is no support. Jerry F. suggested that there should be service level agreements and communicate them. Such as the hours of support what can be expected and what type of support they would get outside of the regular hours. A suggestion was made to get input from others by using an advisory committee.

STAGEnet registered/certified endpoint video codecs

Jerry R. has a list of codecs that can be certified on the network. Another manufacturer also sells codecs and would like to market in the state. Jerry R. likes the fact that all of the WAN equipment is Cisco and would like that to happen with the codecs. Problems could be magnified if other equipment was brought on. Jerry F. said there will need to be more openness at some point, but in a controlled manner because of any potential problems that could occur.

Security issues with video codecs

Jerry R. put together a video codec security document. There is an impact on classes and meetings if a system is hacked into. A document was needed to assist the owners of the iPowers. The IVN iPowers are locked down. There is a new video network redesign that may solve some of the security issues.

H.323 Network Plan

When the video network was first put together it was a textbook design based on the existing network structure and extensive backing and direction from Cisco's engineering group. After the K-12 video rollout there was a point where there wasn't enough capacity on the MCU cards and a lot of calls were forced to proxy. Various experimental code is being used and there are problems in supporting calls. Today, there are 8 zones and 4 different networks. The new design would collapse the 8 zones into one and would eliminate the need to proxy. It would also bring the existing 8 gatekeepers down to 2. This will eliminate firewalls and the core router as dependencies. The only firewalls that will be involved are the internet firewalls. There will be more discussion within the Technical Committee.

There will be a project plan put into place and a time line of when the sites will be converted. There have been sites that have already been converted and there haven't been any problems.

Other Items

Enterprise Architecture

A draft of the network principles were provided to the committee and will be discussed at the next Technical Committee. It was agreed that the network and video domain teams would still be separate. Glen would head the network team and Dave head the video team. They would have combined meetings, but separate principles.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held via video on April 17th.