

ENGINEERING FORUM TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

October 6, 2004

TOPICS IN THIS MONTH'S MINUTES:

FALL 2004 TSP MEETING PLANNING

SPRING 2005 NARPM MEETING PLANNING

PROJECT UPDATES

- *RD/RA Handbook*
- *Containment Technologies and Remedies*
- *Expertise Survey*
- *EF Resource Directory*

CO-CHAIR ELECTION

Fall 2004 TSP Meeting Planning

A draft agenda for the fall meeting EF business sessions was distributed on October 4 and is available at www.trainex.org. The EF business sessions will be from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM PDT on Monday and from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM PDT on Thursday. Dave Reisman (NRMRL-Cinc.) requested via email that his allotted time slot be moved from Thursday to Monday afternoon.

A teleconference line has been reserved so that those who are unable to attend the meeting in person can participate remotely. The call in number for the Monday afternoon session is (202) 275-0166, access code 3544#. EF members can participate in the Thursday afternoon session by calling (202) 275-0199, access code 3373#. Ten lines have been reserved for each session and will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Mark Granger (Region 2) will not attend the meeting, but may participate in the business sessions via telephone. Sharon will send her most recent copy of the Evergreen List to Hilary Thornton (Region 3), who volunteered to coordinate the updating of the list and to lead the discussion about future technical topics during the Monday afternoon business session.

The EF is responsible for planning the fall 2005 TSP conference. Sharon will include time to discuss this meeting during the EF business sessions at the fall meeting.

Spring 2005 NARPM Meeting Planning

At the fall meeting, the TSP co-chairs will meet with the NARPM co-chairs on Tuesday afternoon to discuss the spring 2005 NARPM conference, which will be held in Phoenix, AZ. EF members should propose training sessions, papers, panels, and presentations they would like to see at the spring meeting. Bernie Schorle (Region5) will distribute to EF members a list of potential topics developed by the Ground Water Forum (GWF). Any comments on these topics should be sent to Sharon, who will pass them along to the GWF co-chairs.

Project Updates

RD/RA Handbook

Steve Kinser (Region 7) has contacted several offices in search of funding for an update to the RD/RA Handbook, but has not received any favorable responses. The EF must decide whether to continue to pursue this project, or focus their efforts on other topics of interest. Bernie suggested that the EF attempt

to find engineering links to recommendations made in the 120-Day Study and pursue those avenues. The 120-Day Study has generated a lot of discussion within the Agency, and the likelihood of finding funding for projects that directly tie-in to the study is greater than the likelihood of finding resources to update the RD/RA Handbook. Kelly Madalinski (OSRTI) will investigate which Headquarters offices are involved in implementing the recommendations set forth in the 120-Day Study, and will get back to the EF with this information. Topics for future issue papers, technical topics, and engineering bulletins could also be gleaned from the study. EF members will discuss opportunities relating to the 120-Day Study at the fall meeting.

Containment Technologies and Remedies

Kelly Madalinski reported that OSWER has given funding to the National Academies to study containment technologies and remedies. He will forward a brief summary of their intended research to the EF. Members expressed interest in learning more about this study and may want to become involved with helping to direct the focus of this research. Kelly explained that the research focus is broad, and includes discussions on how construction is linked to performance and remedy lifespan. This topic will be discussed in greater detail at the fall meeting.

Expertise Survey

EMS is compiling the responses from the expertise survey and will assist the EF with the analysis of the data. Sharon said EMS has some concerns over the subjective nature of some of the conclusions. She suggested that each Region draft their own conclusions, and EMS will serve as a technical editor. EMS will have the summary tables of the expertise survey available for distribution before the Sacramento meeting. In addition, EMS plans to have some of the narratives available before the meeting. Bill Rothenmeyer (Region 8) asked each Region to prepare a paragraph detailing who was surveyed and when. He will send his paragraph to the other Regions so they can use it as a template.

EF Resource Directory

Steve Kinser suggested that the EF prepare a resource directory listing engineering resources. This directory could include guidance documents, issue papers, bulletins, and other publications related to engineering topics. Because of the large volume of material available, this project could start small and expand over time. Ideally the directory would be available on the Internet, but that would require funds for contractor support. Limited directories already exist (e.g., TSP website, Clu-In, USACE, ITRC), but this directory would serve as a clearinghouse for the most recent and pertinent resources. This potential project will be discussed in greater detail at the fall TSP meeting.

Co-Chair Election

Sharon Hayes is the only person who was nominated, so she will be reelected as the next co-chair.

ATTENDEES

Sharon Hayes, Region 1
Andy Palestini, Region 3
Hilary Thornton, Region 3
Frank Vavra, Region 3
Jon Bornholm, Region 4
Leo Romanowski, Region 4
Tony Holoska, Region 5
Karen Mason-Smith, Region 5
Nate Nemani, Region 5

Bernie Schorle, Region 5
Steve Kinser, Region 7
Bill Rothenmeyer, Region 8
Mike Gill, Region 9 HSTL
Neil Thompson, Region 10
Kelly Madalinski, OSRTI
Gareth Pearson, ESD–Las Vegas
Ed Mead, USACE
Keith Arnold, EMS, Inc.