

DALNET PROJECT MANAGERS MEETING
March 5, 1998, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Wayne State University, Purdy Library
Simons Room

Agenda

1. Introductions 12:15 - 12:20 p.m.
2. Oakland University's Z39.50 connection request 12:20 - 12:25 p.m.
3. NOTIS LMS: 6.3.1 patron accounting record archive
schedule; NOTIS stabilization--Anaclare Evans 12:25 - 12:35 p.m.
4. Horizon Planning--Randall Jones, Ameritech Library
Services and Louise Bugg, WSU/DALNET 12:35 - 12:45 p.m.
5. InfoShare Project Charter (draft to be distributed)--Louise
Bugg/Jim Green 12:45 - 12:50 p.m.

L. Bugg/cmz
dalnet7

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Minutes

Attendance: Debbie Adams, Botsford; K. Binkowski, DIA; J. Brennan, Hutzel Hospital; L. Bugg, WSU/DALNET; N. Bulgarelli, Beaumont -Royal Oak; Daria Drobny, Rehabilitation Institute ;. G. Ellis, Walsh College; A. Evans, WSU/DALNET; J. Flaherty, WCCC; J. Green, WSU/DALNET; J. Houser, DPL; M. Klein, CHM, Harper/DMC; B Platts, Beaumont-Troy; Teresa Prince, MCC; Mary Ann Sheble, UDM ;. K.Tubolino, VAMC; D. Zyskowski, Oakland Co. Law Library.

Guests: Bill Easton, Harry Masek, Darryl McNamara, Ameritech Library Services

1. **Introductions:** Our guests from Ameritech were introduced. Randall Jones was unable to join us for lunch.

2. **Oakland University's Z39.50 Connection Request:** Oakland University has asked our permission for a Z39.50 connection between DCAT and their new Voyager system. The main concern expressed was for staff resources on the DALNET end to create and test the configuration file for the connection. DALNET's efforts should be concentrated on the DALNET end of the connection. It is important that work on the Z39.50 connection to Oakland University not impact the installation of Horizon. It was the consensus of the Project Managers that the linkage be supported but that Horizon migration for UD Mercy be given the first priority. L. Bugg will forward the recommendation of the Project Managers to the Board.

3. **NOTIS LMS 6.3.1**
Patron Accounting File Archiving: As previously approved by Project Managers, the archive of the Patron Accounting File will occur the evening of 6 March and the early morning of 7 March 1998. All closed records more than 180 days old will be archived from the system. All open records and all records whose last transaction occurred within the last 180 days will remain on the file. To accomplish this work, the system will be brought down at 6:00 PM on Friday, 6 March 1998. It is anticipated that the various jobs will require most of the night and early morning. Test data indicates that the system should come up in the normal manner on Saturday, but that it may be a bit late. If the jobs have not completed, all functions but circulation will be brought up about 9:00 AM on Saturday morning. Updates on the archive and the system will be posted on the various DALNET listservs and on the hotline (313-577-4195).

DALNET Project Managers Meeting Minutes

March 5, 1998

Page 2

System Stability: Web access to the OPAC was disabled on Sunday, 8 February 1998. Since then the system has crashed fewer times. Removing WebLuis is aiding our diagnosis of the problems we've been having. Several sites reported terminal sessions being frequently dropped from the system. We will also look into why this is occurring.

4. **Horizon Planning:** L. Bugg reported that we have an interim agreement with Ameritech which will allow us to go forward, in a limited manner, with Horizon. We can proceed with the implementation of Horizon at University of Detroit Mercy and of InfoShare. The InfoShare project will move some of the licensed databases off MDAS to InfoShare where they can be accessed by both NOTIS and Horizon. It was also reported that no additional DALNET staff would be hired at this time.

Tomorrow, Friday, 6 March 1998, work will begin on planning implementation of Horizon at UDM. Randall Jones, Harry Masek, Bill Easton, DALNET staff, key UDM staff and key DPL staff will meet to identify the decisions which will have to be made. Ameritech staff will present a draft project plan at that time.

Ameritech as agreed to provide DALNET with the appropriate Ids and passwords to access Horizon documentation on the Web.

DALNET staff will obtain clean copies of the handouts for the demonstrations and will make copies for those who did not receive them today.

5. **InfoShare:** J. Green presented a draft project charter for the implementation of InfoShare by DALNET. We will begin by moving one database, likely ERIC. We will need to consider what to do about other databases after that, e.g. whether we will access them via a Z39.50 connection, via the Web, or via InfoShare. Web access has these disadvantages: integration with other NOTIS/Horizon functions is lacking, the hook to holdings is missing, remote access is a problem, and dumb terminals do not work. G. Ellis, Walsh College, raised the question of Walsh not having a license for MDAS use and their participation in InfoShare.

DALNET Project Managers Meeting Minutes

March 6, 1998

Page 3

Bill Easton, Ameritech, announced that Ameritech has a new name for its Vista product--Impact. Impact is a system with many databases mounted on it in Provo, Utah and accessed by libraries via the Internet. For sites with an Ameritech Library Services library information system, Impact will provide the hook to holdings. Other features include a T3 line for the server and the ability to do broadcast searching.

NEXT MEETING: April 6, 1998, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at a place to be determined.

Summary notes by,
Anaclare F. Evans
3/6/98

WSU/DALNET InfoShare Prototype Project Charter

InfoShare is a UNIX-based server for locally mounting commercial databases. Databases mounted on InfoShare can be accessed via both NOTIS and Horizon Z39.50 client software. InfoShare supports the hook-to-holdings feature of the NOTIS LMS. InfoShare is licensed by Ameritech Library Services through a technology-sharing agreement with SilverPlatter Information, Inc.

End Product: One NOTIS MDAS database moved to the InfoShare platform and accessible initially from DALNET's current NOTIS workstations and later from Horizon workstations.

Project Authorization: Signed agreement between WSU and Ameritech Library Services to license InfoShare for WSU/DALNET, dated February 16, 1998.

Scope Definition: The scope of this prototype project is defined by these deliverables and major phases.

Deliverables--one NOTIS MDAS database moved to InfoShare with online help screens and printed user documentation.

Major phases--(1) installation; (2) Testing, production, and production tuning for access via NOTIS workstations; (3) Testing, production, and production tuning for access via Horizon workstations.

Objectives: The objectives of this prototype project include--

Primary objectives--

- (1) To reduce the load on WSU/DALNET's mainframe by moving MDAS databases to a UNIX-based server; and
- (2) To implement a "bridge" product that works with the current NOTIS platform.

Secondary objectives--

- (1) To implement a database server with the Horizon client/server library information system; and
- (2) To provide a prototype to help evaluate WSU/DALNET's database options with the new Horizon system.

Stakeholders & Key Reporting Relationships

Customer/client--WSU Library System and DALNET libraries.

Project administrator--Louise Bugg.

Co-Project managers--Jim Green, user services, and George Marck, system administration and technical support.

Other key team members--will be added as project develops.

Project reporting relationships--Louise will report to the WSU Libraries Management Group; the Project Team will report to the DALNET Project Managers.

Expected Completion Date: June 1, 1998. This assumes receipt of hardware and software by April 1, 1998.

Project Cost: Hardware and software were included in the Ameritech Library Services agreement, with a downpayment and remainder due after testing. Other costs will include database licensing and pre-loading costs for the database selected for the prototype.

Key Constraints, Assumptions, Concerns/Risks:

1. Getting the prototype into production during the summer will not provide performance data during peak loads on the NOTIS system.
2. Database license constraints may impact access, e.g., simultaneous users.
3. The choice of a database will impact what we learn from the prototype.
4. Speed of moving databases off NOTIS MDAS is critical to get immediate reduction of load on the mainframe.
5. This project has high visibility throughout WSU and DALNET institutions.
6. The InfoShare machine should be housed near the TAG machine for the best performance with NOTIS.
7. Locating the InfoShare machine at the WSU University Computing Center would be an opportunity to develop and test new policies for the Libraries' staff to be responsible for system administration.
8. Hardware problems on the TAG machine need to be remedied, especially given the additional load expected from InfoShare transactions.
9. The ERIC database would be a good candidate for the prototype for these reasons:
 - (a) it is a medium-sized DALNET database;
 - (b) it still comes on tapes and we want to eliminate the use of tapes;
 - (c) it is the third highest used DALNET citation database on MDAS;
 - (d) it is widely shared among DALNET libraries, but is not shared by MRLT libraries, which would add more complexity to the project;

- (e) it is not an expensive database and it is in the public domain which should reduce licensing constraints;
 - (f) other NOTIS sites have successfully mounted ERIC on InfoShare;
 - (g) coverage of the ERIC database via SilverPlatter should be comparable to current coverage on MDAS.
10. Ameritech will facilitate a speedy installation of InfoShare for WSU/DALNET.
 11. User training needs will be minimal.
 12. InfoShare implementation will NOT require that the TSRV transaction be re-enabled. It has been disabled to turn off the LUIS Web interface.
 13. MDAS authentication via the NOTIS LMS patron database will work for WSU/DALNET user logon to InfoShare databases.

DRAFT

L. Bugg, J. Green, G. Marck

February 24, 1998

dalnet.8