Focus Communities for CIM High Priority Work Items

Terry Saxton, Xtensible Solutions

Gowri Rajappan, Doble

New CIMug Focus Communities

Background and Introduction

- During our IEC WG13/14 CIM meetings 9-13 October 2012, we created a focus group to address the growing interest and urgency associated with asset health assessment and providing actionable information to system operators. The team comprised members of both WG13 and WG14, since both groups have an interest.

- As we discussed how this group would function, it became apparent to some that the best way to enable this focus team to carry-out its mission would be form this group under the CIM Users Group so that all interested parties (i.e., utilities, vendors, as well as IEC WG members) could participate. With further thought, it quickly became evident that this would be a good model to deal with other high priority utility needs where the CIM standards should be applied, such as integrated network model management and DR/DER, for example.

- These types of focus groups were in view when the CIMug was created, but in recent years the primary function of the CIMug has been to conduct the bi-annual meetings with presentations on utility case stories, applications of CIM standards, projects to extend the CIM to support new applications, etc. to provide training and exchange of lessons learned in the use of CIM standards. However, there is a growing recognition that the CIMug could do more to address CIM user's needs. This proposal is intended to address these needs.

New CIMug Focus Communities

Proposal

The proposal is to introduce the concept of "focus communities" into the CIMug. The idea is to create a focus community when there is a high priority or urgent need that would benefit from having all parties with subject matter expertise (i.e., SMEs) of both the problem and potential solutions.

New CIMug Focus Communities

Purpose

The purpose of these focus communities would be to:

- Produce use cases and data requirements dealing with the particular focus of the focus community to identify the system interactions that should be standardized by the IEC as part of the CIM standards. This could take the form of proposed profiles for these system interactions. Such proposed profiles would then be handed off to the appropriate IEC CIM WG for progressing as international standards. The IEC WGs would then produce standard profiles and necessary updates/extensions to the CIM UML to provide the needed semantic models.

- Provide a forum for exchanging information among focus community members. This would include mechanisms to post queries and comments as well as document repositories for managing working papers and artifacts produced. GoToMeeting facilities would be provided for conducting web meetings and teleconferences.

- Set up a SharePoint site for each focus community with only guest accounts required to have full access to the work of the community.

- Provide an IEC WG advisor to assist with the functioning of each focus community

- Create an advisory steering board to provide a framework and governance policies for managing community operations.

New CIMug Focus Communities

How focus communities would function

Focus communities would conduct business in whatever fashion works best for the particular community. Options include:

- Meeting during CIMug bi-annual meetings
- Conducting periodic web meetings between meetings. It is expected that this would be the primary means of conducting business
- Setting up face-to-face meetings for the focus community possibly in conjunction with other industry functions where members are already attending.
- Collaborating via the SharePoint home site for the focus group, especially for producing drafts.

New CIMug Focus Communities

Initial Pilot
- To kick-off this new strategy and provide feedback for governance policies that would be helpful, a focus community concerned with asset health monitoring and analytics will be formed as follows:
- **Topic**: Asset Health Monitoring and Analytics
- **IEC WG Advisor**: Gowri Rajappan, WG13 member
- **Membership:** Open to any interested party that intends to be consistently involved in the community. Initial members include:
  - Gowri Rajappan, WG13 - Advisor
  - Pat Brown, WG13
  - Michael Gerstmaier, WG13
  - John Gillerman, WG13/14
  - Margaret Goodrich, WG14
  - Andre Maizener, WG13
  - Greg Robinson, WG14/13
  - Terry Saxton, WG13

Comments are welcome!