



SunGuide Software

User's Group

Meeting Minutes



Date: July 13, 2017

Time: 2:30pm-3:30pm EDT

Agenda:

Topic	Led By:
Item 1: District 6 Demonstration of RISC in OTM	Alex Mirones, D6
Item 2: FP 3860 Planned Events	Derek Vollmer, CO
Item 3: Remote Control of DMS	Derek Vollmer, CO

Attendees:

Luis Ruiz, D1
Renee Daniels, D1
Ryan Crist, D2
Tanesha Sibley, D2
John McFadden, COT
Shayla Khalilahmadi, D4
Jose Alfaro, D4
Liana Blackwood-Etienne, D4
John Hope, D5/CFX
Mark Lucas, D5
Mark Laird, D6
Alex Mirones, D6
Charles Keasler, D7
Dan Buidens, D7
Jared Roso, D7

Eric Gordin, FTE
Alex Brum, FTE
Bryan Homayouni, CFX
Marlon ChinShue, I-595
Rolle Adrenamae, I-595
Wang Lee, MDX
Roger Strain, SWRI
Shawn Kinney, CO
Frances Ijeoma, CO
Mark Dunthorn, CO
Fred Heery, CO
Derek Vollmer, CO
Jennifer Rich, CO

Discussion:

ITEM 1 District 6 Demonstration of RISC in OTM version 3.6

Footprints identified for when RISC was activated for an event in SunGuide. Footprints that were entered in were simple. Shawn Kinney works with RISC often and likes receiving the information from the D6 OTM module.

Alex Mirones presented the OTM software with the RISC module.

- RISC manager would put in new RISC event. A new RISC event is initiated by selecting an active event. Determine the requesting agency and fill in their information. This initiates the RISC module to give the interface that sends the notification emails. To confirm the RISC, choose "yes"; if you choose "no" you have to explain why. RISC may need additional resources and there is a way to track their arrival times as well.
- The next page sends out the Contractor notification. The OTM is used in tandem with SunGuide so it is not used instead of SunGuide.
- An activation is sent out by email to a select group of configurable emails inside of the OTM system.
- Time documentation is available on the screen. The contractor dispatch may call and say they are on scene. At that point, you would document the arrival of the contractor. Simultaneously, you are receiving calls from representatives (Maintenance, Road Ranger, SERV, etc.) on the ground would give you the official time. Essentially you are documenting all of the official and un-official arrival times.
 - A benefit is the extensive tracking of times that get thrown at the Operator whether it is an official or un-official person. On the back end an email is being sent out of all of the updates to the event.
- Second part of RISC is recovery. Notice to Proceed (NTP) given by official agency. Once the scene is safe for recovery you have the ability to pause it incase fire rescue needs to get on scene. NTP STOP is a "time out/pause" and has the capability to resume. Notifications are being sent out as these changes in status occur.

The last notification is sent out when the event has been closed.

Ryan: is there a way to have the time stamp be earlier than the real-time?

Alex: No.

Ryan: Can we be sent an example of the email notifications that get sent out?

Alex: Yes.

Derek: Is anyone opposed to the features and functions in the OTM module?

One concern is the timeliness of the time stamps going in.

Email any concerns to Derek, Mark, and Frances.

ITEM 2 FP 3860 Planned Events

This was discussed previously at the second SSUG meeting we had and all of the notes were lost due to a server crash. We did receive some clarification on planned events. Planned events are for items like marathons, parades, sporting events, etc. Planned construction events will not be considered or included as a planned event. Planned construction events should be on the LCIS. We will be meeting with the LCIS team to discuss the LCIS system.

Two options for planned events are:

- Do them under EM or
- Do it through schedule action system

EM appears to be the better option. It would have the ability to create a future start and end time for the event. A response plan could also be created for the event.

- How do you want to get the response plan content approved?
 - Approval would be required sometime between creation of planned event and activation of response plan.
 - Without approval, the event is created but the response plan is not activated.
 - Bryan: A level of approval would be appropriate.
 - Ryan: We would lean toward the approval process.
 - Mark: Would it be an escalated permission or one that can be assigned to anyone? Derek: I was thinking it would be an escalated permission.
 - Bryan: Could it be configurable by District? Derek: I like that idea- that way the operator could create the response plan and it is ready to go.
 - At time of activation the operator on duty would receive a notification and the notification is sent to someone that can see what is going on in real-time.
 - Mark D.: What if the approver is engaged in something with a higher priority?
 - Derek: My thought was that the approval could happen any time between creation and activation.
 - Mark: Wouldn't you want a final decision around that time incase conditions have changed? Or maybe the event got canceled?
 - John: If the approval is in place, it should account for that.
 - Mark: If it is approved ahead of time and the conditions have changed issues will arise.

- The thought process is that it is hard for operators that are constantly handling all of these events to activate something on a synchronous timeframe. It is meant to act as a reminder to the operator to activate something. If there is something critical at that time then, obviously, it takes precedence.
- They can set different priorities that are traffic related to go up on the signs instead of this.
- We definitely want an approval in the system which will help us move forward.
- Items needed for planned event updates:
 - A new section in the event list that separates out the planned events.
 - New event status called "planned"
 - Ryan: Could that just be a flag instead of a status?
 - Mark D.: We would want a new event status not a new event type... active, unconfirmed, closed, void, etc. Is there a need for a new status for this event type? We do not want to create a new event type.
 - District 7: This sounds like a scheduled action? How is it different?
 - Mark D.: What we want to accomplish is very similar. The difference is that the event ID is not shown when using a scheduled action.
 - Roger: The SAS has the DMS sequence ID not the event ID.
 - This is like you create an event with the event portion of SAS and then they can be turned on and off at certain times.
 - Derek: Do we want a way to differentiate between approved and non-approved events?
 - Roger: Need a quick way for the operator to see what should be approved.
 - Derek: We will discuss this a little more and then send something out for everyone to review.

ITEM 3 Remote Control of DMS

The needs for having remote control of DMS are to help with the Express Lane projects that connect to two facilities and one of the facilities is in another District. Also, we want to have the capability to merge messages on DMS when someone is working from a remote center.

We are going to have a meeting with the Express Lanes software team in August to determine the best way to proceed.

We could pull in TxDOTs remote control application.

- Remote Control vs. Center-to-Center: The purpose of C2C is to allow SunGuide to communicate to external systems. It could also be used by third parties that we send data to and receive data from. In order for the information to be compatible with third parties and SunGuide, the system is less accessible. It does not expose the full set of information or the full set of controls as if you were sitting right there. C2C does what it is supposed to do and transfers the data. TxDOT wanted to have the 24/7 facility have access to another facility so the other facility did not have to be 24/7. When you are directly controlling the devices you need more information to have better control. The RCA works similarly to a VPN because it creates a tunnel from your instance of the ATMS software to the remote instance ATMS software and allows you locally to communicate directly to the subsystem at the other end of that connection. Now, there is access to get the full configuration for the DMS. It also has the ability to retrieve full event information and can be viewed locally as if they were coming from your system.
 - Need login credentials and a user account on the other side.
 - Involves a fair amount of UI work.
 - Use the same protocols the system knows, more direct connection and does not simplify the data.
- Derek: we will discuss further after discussing with the Express Lanes team. We are leaning more to the RCA instead of expanding the C2C to work.

Meeting adjourned around 3:16 PM

New Action Items:

Action:	Responsible Person:
Email Derek, Mark, and Frances if there are concerns about using the OTM module.	Districts
Get with the LCIS staff to talk about construction events	Derek