

DALNET Steering Committee Meeting
Botsford Hospital
August 23, 1999
MINUTES

Present: D. Adams, K. Bacsanyi, L. Bugg, J. Houser, P. Jose, G. Libbey, H. Masek, S. Muir, chair; M. Sheble

Excused: J. Flaherty

1. Minutes of August 9 meeting were approved with correction of J. Houser's name.
2. Approving Horizon Functionality

The new WebPAC Task Force will be asked to review Rider H of the contract for WebPAC functionality items. The list of key functionality items from WSU is attached to these minutes. The inability to print circulation notices by location was identified as an important item.

G. Libbey will check at UDMercy re. their participation in the Horizon 5.1.2 functionality testing. UDM's upgrade to 5.1.2 got underway this past weekend. WSU is still finishing the Horizon 5.1.2 post-upgrade jobs and will convert acquisitions to Horizon at the beginning of their fiscal year October 1999. DPL may also participate in the 5.1.2 functionality testing.

Tim Hyde thinks the WebPAC 1.3 fix is not stable yet. Tim is planning to come to DALNET in September to install 1.3. DPL has to decide whether to go "live" with 1.3 or to revert back to 1.2. John needs to know what areas are unstable and what options he has to disable those areas in 1.3. Harry will arrange a conference call with key Ameritech experts and DALNET staff to get more information on this.

When testing Horizon functionality, these four responses could be indicated:

- 1) yes, it works;
- 2) yes, it works, but...
- 3) no, it doesn't work and this seems to be the problem...
- 4) we can't test this.

As we test, Scott, Anaclare and Adriene will report problems and track them on Ameritech's Vantive system. Scott will verify that Pat Tanner will serve as Ameritech's "point person" for this testing process.

John noted the role of Remedy to provide local tracking of problems reported. Scott, Anaclare and Adriene can also track problems in Remedy, so that the Steering Committee and DALNET librarians can monitor them. Remedy can be configured for both online retrieval and for reports on functionality testing issues.

3. Course Reserves Task Force

Scott proposed a new Task Force to address the Horizon course reserves functionality, to develop and communicate procedures and standards for course reserves, and to maintain an awareness of DALNET's enhancement needs for course reserves. Mary Ann Sheble has agreed to chair this group. Anaclare is likely to be the DALNET liaison. Scott will draft a charge for Board approval at or before the September Board meeting.

4. Implementation Updates

Botsford: produced a ReportSmith report on materials published before 1989; suggests list of reports by Library with brief description and contact info on our DALNET website; other ways to share could be a users group among DALNET and a "listserv" to give advice; need to be able to search list of reports, e.g., via an Access database; Ana Fidler will contact Debbie to schedule Botsford's 5.1.2 upgrade.

DPL: have developed a detailed "count down" implementation plan with a new date of September 28th to "go live"; the UPS for the Horizon (and other) servers is to be shipped August 23rd; Help Desk software is being installed by a consultant; cleanup on their Horizon database has been identified; branches are still installing computers and this process is being speeded up to have enough installed by September 28th; Horizon server is being shipped from Provo for installation August 30th/31st; staff for technical positions are still being hired, with the Unix/Sybase administrator scheduled to begin September 1st; the frame relay is to be installed in time for the server; the firewall is ready; the server will be accessible on the Internet/MichNet.

UDMercy: Release 5.1.2 upgrade hit two problems this weekend; the answers will determine whether to move forward with 5.1.2 or to back out to 5.0.2; all NOTIS reports for UDM can now be discontinued; the Outer Drive campus frame relay is still not operational and the computers are using the Internet as the backup; their authority index was rebuilt before the upgrade, however, the bibliographic indexes will be done after and could take a couple of months or more.

WSU: an autoloader for tapes is being ordered for the Horizon server; performance and the need for a firewall to keep out hackers are the top priorities; the new address <http://imagine.dalnet.lib.mi.us> is now operational.

Group 3 Libraries: DIA, OCLL, VA and Walsh are all in production with Horizon, but all haven't activated their WebPACs; Scott will notify the "dhmt"

list re. the status of the WebPACs; OCLL still needs their AADS frame relay circuit addressed and made operational.

Group 4 Libraries: not yet determined which server they'll be loaded on; their tables are mostly done; OCC is the first to be ready for a test dataload; Beaumont has also requested a dataload.

Group 5 Libraries: Scott is beginning conversations with the remaining DMC libraries; Mt. Clemens General Hospital and the Detroit Public Schools Professional Library are not finalized yet with their DALNET contracts.

5. Other

Request that there be a list of what Horizon databases are available and what access is provided with the link to DCAT; the DCAT screens need to be updated to alert users about what's there and where to go for up-to-date info.

ReportSmith training: the next sessions after the Ameritech training are not yet scheduled. There will need to be guidelines for reports by DALNET staff to keep within our resources. This is an appropriate topic for the Systems Administrators Task Force to address.

RSS: two Dell servers have been ordered with internal modems for Ameritech's use; they require phone circuits; Scott and Harry will verify this requirement especially its firewall implications.

Project Managers Meeting: Help Desk information should be ready for the September 13th meeting; a room will be reserved at WSU for the meeting.

Steering Committee meeting schedule:

September 13	DPL	Minutes: Flaherty
September 27	UDM	Jose
October 11	Botsford	Houser
October 25	WSU	Libbey

Submitted by,
Louise Bugg
August 31, 1999

July 15, 1999

To: LMG
From: Jeff Trzeciak
Subject: Show stopping issues

General:

1. *Response time is a major issue. Searches often take so long that users cancel them before getting results. Many people are still using LUIS.* Tim Hyde will be here in August to address the issue of response time in webpac. We'll be doing some fine tuning that seemed to work for Johns Hopkins. Ana is working with CIT to see if we can reduce the load on the server from backups. *I see this as a show stopper.*
2. *Having to use menus and point and click all the time when you know what you're doing and do it all day long is time-consuming.* Perhaps Horizon could develop a command-driven option at some point. Even being consistent in how alt-key combinations are used would be an improvement. Not really a show-stopper but a major concern.
3. *The other issue is the fact that Horizon really isn't integrated. Having information of various kinds attached to one bib. with one bib. Number promotes being able to see the whole picture - or at least "more" of the picture at one time. Having to go in and out of modules, depending on what piece of information you want to see, is not good.* Not really a show-stopper but a major concern.

Webpac:

1. *Where is release 1.3 of webpac? Tim was supposed to assist us in the migration to 1.3* We are still lacking broadcast searching. Tim is supposed to visit in August. *I see this as a show stopper.*

Circulation:

1. *Requests for items in circulation are not initiated properly when entered via staffpac.* This is due to a limitation of the system that prevents us from entering requests due to the number of locations that we have defined.

Cataloging/Database Maintenance:

1. *There are ghost bibs/authorities for records which have been deleted.* You can delete a record but the system does not de-index it.
2. *Phantom entries in indexes/deindexing is not occurring for edited records.* Although there appears to be a fix for this we feel it should be self-correcting.
3. *The system does not handle \$v correctly.* It will accept when importing record but cannot add manually and does not index it correctly. This problem is indicative of very slow response on Ameritech's part to OCLC changes. *This is a show stopper. It is unacceptable to us to have to wait for release 6.0 as Ameritech has suggested.*
4. *Field truncation (blank spaces at end) We consider this a show stopper.*
 - a. Fixed fields (006, 007, and 008) truncation. Affects indexing/deindexing in several title indexes and all call number indexes
 1. Two fixes needed:
 - import program (so future imported records will not be damaged)
 - existing damaged records
 2. Need to ensure the fix to the import programs and to existing damaged records does not interfere with exporting records to oclc.
 - b. Blanks not removed at end of index entries generated by the fast loader - causing de-indexing problems?

Acquisitions:

1. We need to be able to pay more than once on a title, without having to "Change Modes" to a supplemental payment or, worse, having to create a new p.o. line each time a payment is made. Serial and continuing order titles always will need more than one payment, and the current system is very cumbersome.