

Systems FAC Conference Call
25 September 2001

1. Pdf vs. cals – A discussion was held on the merits of using pdf vs. cal format on Electronic Bid sets. Currently only Jacksonville District (of the districts represented on the conference call) is using pdf format although other districts are interested in switching. Ft. Worth District is looking into a Digital Print Room solution similar to the way that Memphis District is working. Sacramento District is meeting with a company called Layton Graphics. They are currently a service provider but are testing the waters to see the feasibility of marketing their software. Their product would translate dgn and dwg files into pdf files and automatically create indexes and links based on a user-defined template. They have also talked with Memphis District and Jacksonville District.
2. ProjectWise – Charleston District asked for some input on ProjectWise. Ft. Worth was the only represented district to currently be using ProjectWise. If you would like to get a copy of Ft. Worth District's documentation on how they came to the decision to implement ProjectWise, send an e-mail to Steve Hutsell with your request and he will send it to you. Steve reported that Ft. Worth and Savannah successfully collaborated on a project using ProjectWise over the network. He also stated that ProjectWise provides an additional layer of security to your design files because there is no way to get into the files without ProjectWise.
3. MDL Updates: The contract for updating 7 mdl's for Microstation Version 8 compatibility as well as improving some of them and making them compatible with the AEC CADD Standards (when applicable). The mdl's to be updated are: Civtools, Cvtdat, Pltpnt, Scrntbl, Steelm, Welddig, and Drafttools. The list is limited due to money constraints. If more money should become available next FY, it is possible that some more mdl's can be updated. So if you have any that you want to have updated, e-mail John Kincaid and let your voice be heard. If you would like to be on the review team for this project, e-mail John Kincaid at the Rock Island District.
4. Next Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 16, 2001, 1:30 pm CST.