

SFAC Meeting Notes

The SFAC meeting discussed several key issues that were all deferred to subcommittee for resolution. The suspense each of the subcommittee is the next SFAC meeting: October 21, 2004.

1. Border sheets –
 - a. Need a border sheet that is both compatible with English and Metric units. Districts overseas use metric designs and the plotters use metric size rolls.
 - i. The sheet should have two borders: one for metric and one for english.
 - ii. Need to check with multinational firm like Betchel to see what they used for their border sheet.
 - b. The NAVFAC recently developed a border sheet. It was suggested that the border become the standard for USACE.
 - i. USACE prepares 80% of the Airforce CADD drawings
 - ii. Navy prepares 15% of the Airforce CADD drawings
 - c. A1 Sheets are 22x33 and are not to an exact scale. They are about 98% accurate.
 - d. It has ¾” margin outside of the border, some view it as a waste of drawing space.
 - e. Still need to consider an alternate sheet size. Most felt that almost anything could be accomplished with the smaller sheet size. But we need to have an alternate just incase there is a need.
 - f. POC Lori Taylor
2. Fonts –
 - a. Consensus was that true type fonts should be used, because it offers better interoperability with other applications.
 - b. 1/8 th inch should still be the standard text height
 - c. The standard fonts selected should be proportional or mono-spaced so that the text lines up correctly in a table.
 - d. POC Ed Mathison and Jason Fairchild
3. Microstation Models
 - a. Consensus was that there should only be one model per drawing file.
 - i. If multiple models are used it makes farming out the work difficult.
 - ii. Multiple models reduce the interoperability of exchanging data with other applications. Autocad can not read multiple models.
 - iii. POC Glen Kato, Roger Fujan
4. Work Units
 - a. No consensus was reached
 - b. POC Roger Porzig
5. File Name
 - a. No consensus was reached
 - b. Standardizing a portion of the user defined characters of the A/E/C Standards. It was suggested:
 - i. P2 number - 6 characters. It was stated that adding the P2 number to the file name does not offer any value to the customer. P2 is an internal designation that only benefits USACE.

- ii. Military Projects
 - 1. Airforce - 9 characters be used for the project number.
 - 2. Army - # characters be used for the project number
 - iii. PN number that is assigned in the Planning and follows the project to Construction.
 - c. POC Mike Watson
- 6. Color Table
 - a. No consensus was reached
 - b. POC O-Song Kwon and Roger Fujan
- 7. Standard Symbol and Abbreviation Sheets
 - a. Want to create a library of standard sheets, everything from the cover sheet up to the first civil sheet (design sheet). Also, the standard sheets for each discipline such as the soil classification sheet, electrical legend, etc.
 - b. Need to verify that the symbols use comply with UDS
 - c. Send District examples to Ed Mathison or Mike Watson
- 8. Cell types to be used in standards
 - a. General consensus was that graphic cells should be added to the standard with the option to set the symbology based on the level.
 - b. Work in conjunction with item 11.
 - c. POC O-Song Kwon
- 9. Process for referencing sheets
 - a. Establish a standard procedure:
 - i. Current process used by all Districts: project is drawn one to one and the border sheet is scaled up or down.
 - ii. Autocadd process: the project is drawn one to one but the sheet model is scaled to paper units. Advantage is for districts that work with AutoCad users.
 - b. POC Roger Fujan, Debra Solis
- 10. CADD files used in site development need to use real world coordinates.
 - a. GIS representative stated that they commonly use Microstation drawings in Arcview. Smaller projects are not georeferenced and they must be orientated using a two point translation.
 - b. No resolution or follow-up was scheduled. The problem was noted.
- 11. Converting Cells to Graphic Cells
 - a. Problem is that many current cells have graphics on multiple layers (for exmple, a light fixture has a letter, a junction box and a fixture all on separate layers for display purposes).
 - b. Roger Fujan suggested we have cells developed on default layer and then they can be placed on the active level (preferred method for Autocad). This creates problems with being able to turn certain graphics off in reference files.
 - c. Microstation has the ability to place nested cells, which needs to be investigated.
 - d. Edward Huell, O-Song Kwon and Rick Grubbs will investigate.