

Placeware Conference Call  
ProjectWise Users Group  
23 January 2003

1. Attendees:

- Glenn White, Fort Worth
- Lori Sitter, Savannah
- Debbie Solis, Seattle
- Milton Richardson, CADD/GIS Center
- Pete Kendrick, Jacksonville
- Roger Porzig, Jacksonville
- John Kincaid, Rock island
- Tim Finley, Kansas Cit
- Ralph Scheid, New Orleans
- Glen Kato, TAC
- O'Song Kwon, Korea
- Mary Diel, Sacramento
- Doug Wall, Wilmington
- Ed Mathison, Louisville
- Santiago Mor, Honolulu
- Jean McGinn, HQUSACE

2. Upcoming schedules ( <http://ckb.wes.army.mil> ):

- Conference call/ Placeware demo by LRC 2/11/03
- Bentley meeting 2/25/03-2/27/03 (needs final confirmation)
- Projectwise Group meeting 5/22/03 in Baltimore at BIUC

3. Bentley meeting: Draft of items was sent out after the Jekyl Island meeting on topics to discuss with Bentley in Feb concerning PW. Comments due back to Ed Mathison by 1/31/03. If you need a copy of the draft topic list, email me and I will send you a copy. We will use this list as a starting point for items based on time available with Bentley. Aside: If you have other items concerning Bentley software or dealings with Bentley that you feel should be discussed at the Feb meeting, email them to me also.

4. Status of Projectwise.

District	PW Version	Database	Comments
Jacksonville	3.8.1	MSSql	Pre-deployment phase
Savannah	3.8.1	Sybase	In use 3 years
Wilmington			
Ft. Worth	3.8.1	Oracle	
CADD Center			Evaluating
TransAtlantic			Evaluating
Kansas City			Evaluating
New Orleans	3.8.1	Oracle	In use 3 years
Seattle			Evaluating
Honolulu			Pre-deployment phase
Rock Island			Pre-deployment phase
Sacramento			Evaluating
Louisville	3.8.1	Oracle	Installed, starting to use with AE Management, small CADD starting soon
Korea			Demo running

5. Lori Sitter of Savannah did Placeware demo of how they work. The following are some items/comments that seemed to be of interest.
  - Keep only active projects in PW. Others are archived on cd.
  - Only administrators can create vaults
  - Confusion about restoring files. Lead to a discussion about a soft delete feature for PW.
  - Has been working with other districts. Appears to be some problems with transfer times.
  - Raster files are kept outside of PW. Primarily because of the file size and the resulting transfer time to working folders.
  - Reference file sets. Had some corruptions, may have been because of different versions of PW. Also, had to use caution with copying files and having PW keeping the path to reference file from the old file with the new file.
  - Advertisement process is outside of PW.
  - Login is with domain login. PW has a synchronization utility to get groups and listing for use in PW.
  - Rename folders based on status of design.
  - How much of day spent administrating PW -- in beginning all day long -- now it is half the day.
  - Have 4 large in house projects going on. Have a submittal a week. One project has 1800 drawings.
  - Projectwise has a function called versioning, but Savannah is not using.
  - Started keeping all design stages in PW, but then had problems.
  - Steps taken by Savannah to bring organization up to speed:
    - A. Brought in lead designer from each section and talked about what they wanted -- gave Bentley pre-deployment information -- define workflow and state wanted to start out. Had lead people input how want to setup. This was similar to what they had on the server.
    - B. Loaded one project on while Bentley was there -- had same people come in for training. Set up training of 12 people at a time for half day, emphasis on how to get files in and out, how to create a new document, etc. Specific things needed to know to function with new software.

Was a big change -- did not want to do it. One of complaints is difference in opening a file -- takes couple seconds longer than if file just sitting on server.
6. Using non-CADD documents: No problems using in PW. Excel 2000 works, but Excel XP does not because of ODMA problems. No real guidance from Bentley on future of this.
7. Suggestion made to possibly start by installing on a laptop to play with prior to really installing, when you want to test it out.
8. Working between districts --
  - Savannah is working with Mobile on some projects -- some of files are timed out when trying to check out. Between 0900 and 1500. Mobile just needs to have PW client to use Savannah vault. Not part of domain -- have been assigned user names and passwords from Savannah to access vaults. Problem with connectivity because of connectivity problems.
9. Savanna bought web interface and had it installed about 2 years ago, but have not been using it -- didn't have a web person to work it, but may use it now since they have hired a web person. Maybe web interface will be used for A/E firms doing work.
10. Lori loaded VPN on laptop, able to log in to workstation through VPN and log in to Projectwise from home.
11. When sharing data with other districts need to be sure that your IM people are clued in to what you are doing. Problems with security administration.
12. Some significant announcements will be coming forth from Bentley soon.
13. ESRI products do not work well within PW. per Lori. If using SDE it is not a problem.
14. Ralph Scheid of New Orleans wanted the group to set up the following:

- A. Define goals of workgoup
  - B. Definition of what ProjectWise "is" and what it will do for us
  - C. Define near-term goals such as sharing info and seeing each others datasources
  - D. Look at license sharing among COE
  - E. Create a central point of problem calls
15. MVD has been having meetings about sharing PW and CADD license pools for the last several months. Could go that way (division by division) or Corps-wide.
  16. Need to look at CPC and WPC and see what their track record has been. Data stores could be at individual districts but control, security administration, at central site.
  17. Ed Mathison at Louisville District will be the lead of the user group. Contact info:

Ed Mathison

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