

MINUTES



CalConnect

THE CALENDARING AND SCHEDULING CONSORTIUM

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From the Executive Director

Dear Members,

Roundtables really do solve problems and point the way forward and the October event at IBM/Lotus in Littleton, Massachusetts was no exception.



These meetings every four months provide a reliable opportunity for

members' views on issues to converge in real time without the constraints of conference calling. Take a look at the Technical Committee summaries on page 3 to get a sense of the lively conversations and progress made at the sessions. The wrap-up on the CalEco project for digital calendaring outreach on page 4 also spotlights the value of Roundtables in terms of achieving consensus and plans for moving forward in a way that is consistent with CalConnect's mission.

Twenty-six representatives of member organizations attended the Roundtable, ten of whom also participated in the IOP Test Event. We also had one observer present.



Technical Committees produced an

impressive number of public and internal documents in this cycle.

They are:

- **TC EVENTPUB** - [Link Property Extensions to iCalendar](#)
- **TC IOPTTEST** - [public](#) and [internal](#) IOP Test Events
- **TC MOBILE** - [TC MOBILE Interoperability Test Event Report](#)
- **TC TIMEZONE** - [TIMEZONE Service Protocol](#) and [TIMEZONE XML Specification](#)
- **TC XML** - [CalWS Restful Web Services Protocol for Calendaring](#)
- **TC XML** - [An Introduction to Internet Calendaring](#)

This Roundtable also marked the start of a new tradition: the Host Session.



This is an opportunity for the host organization to make a presentation to attendees. In this event, the Lotus engineers offered a demonstration of their products' calendaring capabilities, together with discussion and a Q&A period.

Members and others interested in CalConnect's work will enjoy the way

that two new outreach features have developed. After Roundtable XIV, we launched a feature called "Member News" related to the CalConnect Blog. It provides links to calendaring news items from members. More information is available in the [CalConnect Members Area](#). All members should find value in taking advantage of this capability, as well as the opportunity to describe their organizations goals and accomplishments in the new "Member Focus" section of the Blog. We also welcome feature items in the area.

Next up, at the Roundtable at UC Berkeley February 9-11, 2011, planning will get underway for the first CalConnect full-week event in Europe, to be hosted by Kerio Technologies in Plzen, Czech Republic, on October 3-7, 2011.



Dave Thewlis



TC IOPTTEST XIX



The October 2010 Calconnect Interoperability Testing Event (CITE) was actually two distinct sets of testing. One set of vendors tested CalDAV and CardDAV; the second set tested iMIP. Organizations involved included Apple, Sun Server, IBM, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Oracle, and Kerio. They continued the ongoing testing of the CalDAV and CardDAV protocols, focusing on WebDAV sync, issues surrounding vendor-specific CalDAV extensions needing more clarification, and iMIP recurrence issues.

As usual, participants found and corrected bugs during the course of the CITE. This is always beneficial because an organization can have a significant testing environment at their location, but when they test outside of their protected domain, previously unidentified issues can bubble to the surface and be resolved.

Among the findings was that iMIP representations of the text/calendar section that have Content-Disposition: attachment are handled differently by different vendors.

If there is Content-Disposition: attachment, then some vendors will attach the icalendar as a file attachment and others will represent as a workflow item.

With respect to CardDAV, interoperability testing is just starting in earnest and participants noted that the vCard 4 specification in CardDAV was invalid and spent time discussing and writing changes to the actual specification.

This is exactly why face to face interoperability testing is so beneficial. It is possible not only to uncover issues, but also to work in a collegial environment to enhance, correct and improve the specifications being tested.

BOF

In addition to testing, a BOF (bird of a feather) session occurred on Monday, October 4 to discuss problems that different implementations have in the area of communicating and processing updates to recurring meetings. It was agreed that, in general, updates and reschedules to a single instance of a series works well.

Next CITE

CalConnect invites all interested parties to participate in a follow-on test event and Mobile Calendaring IOP test event to be held February 7-9, 2011 at The University of California, Berkeley immediately prior to the CalConnect XX Roundtable.

Test Event Summaries

Public documents containing summaries of all test events can be found by going to the [CalConnect website](#).

CITE Manager

Pat Egen of Patricia Egen Consulting serves as Interoperability Testing Event Manager.

CALCONNECT WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



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About CalConnect Minutes

- ♦ Issued after each CalConnect Roundtable, this newsletter provides highlights of those gatherings and links to more in-depth coverage on the CalConnect web site.
- ♦ You will also find links to new Technical Committee Reports.
- ♦ This is also a source for details on upcoming CalConnect meetings and conferences.
- ♦ To subscribe to CalConnect Minutes send an e-mail to minutes-subscribe@calconnect.org and put "Subscribe " in the subject line.
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Tech Committee Summaries



TC CALDAV took a big-picture look at the current state of calendaring and CalDAV related standards, then discussed several extensions in detail. In particular, the group talked about how to deploy a multiple-server CalDAV system and what requirements would be for clients. They discussed managed attachments on a CalDAV server and decided on a new approach using a "workspace" collection. The session concluded with a presentation and demonstration of Apple's CalDAV based calendar sharing extensions.

TC DSI reviewed the charter and work on the icon design, which sparked lively discussion, especially with respect to internationalization issues. For the user experience design, the committee talked about the "subscribe vs. download" models of accepting calendar data. They entertained a proposal for supporting only the subscription model, but no clear consensus prevailed that they could ignore the download use case. Finally, several web sites were referenced that provide technical information or related solutions that will help CalConnect model its design.

TC EVENTPUB held a rousing discussion related to the process by which additions to the iCalendar spec are done. Specifically, the group discussed the outside perception of others, the needs of Social Networking, and the length of time the CalConnect process takes internally, as well as externally with

the IETF.

The details of EventPub's link reference draft were presented and ultimately it was decided to add these properties as top level properties in iCalendar and not as links in relation to the Nottingham draft, which is currently at the IETF.

TC FREEBUSY devoted most of the session to showing how the proposed VPOLL component could be used with iTIP. The new proposed properties were presented and the group explored some of the interactions that could take place. Next steps seem to be to come up with some implementations, in particular, some clients would be useful to see how this might be displayed to the user.

TC IOPTTEST conducted a "regular" IOP Test Event with participation from five organizations and two remote participants, focusing on iMIP, CalDAV, and CardDAV testing. (See article on CITE.)

TC ISCHEDULE had an overview of the current state of iSchedule related standards, then presented an in depth view of the DKIM protocol and how it would be applied to iSchedule.

TC MOBILE mainly discussed the upcoming interop and Mobile Calendaring IOP test event in February 2011 that already have interest from some vendors. The committee addressed how to get others involved, including IBM. Formal planning for this began immediately. The group also discussed outreach again. Some suggestions were made to hook into the CalEco effort and provide a "how to" for calendaring on mobile devices. *(continued on next page)*

About CalConnect

The Calendaring and Scheduling Consortium (CalConnect) is a partnership among vendors, developers, and customers to advance calendaring and scheduling standards and implementations. The mission is to provide mechanisms to allow calendaring and scheduling methodologies to interoperate, and to promote broad understanding of these methodologies so that calendaring and scheduling tools and applications can enter the mainstream of computing. The Consortium develops recommendations for improvement and extension of relevant standards, develops requirements and use cases for calendaring and scheduling specifications, conducts interoperability testing for calendaring and scheduling implementations, and promotes calendaring and scheduling.

Organizational members are Apple, Binary Tree, Cabo Communications, Carnegie Mellon, dotCal, Genentech, Google, IBM, IceWarp, Intand, Kerio Technologies, MailSafe, Microsoft, Mozilla Foundation, NASA, New York University, Nokia, Notify Technology, Oracle, Patricia Egen Consulting, PeopleCube, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Stanford University, Synchronica, TimeTrade Systems, Tungle Corporation, University of California, University of Wisconsin, Yahoo!, and Zimbra.

Tech Committee Summaries (continued)



Discussion of a new chair took place and Mimi Mugler of UC Berkeley expressed interest in that role.

The committee decided to adjust the scheduled conference call times to make it easier for more people to join the calls.

The question of a generic mobile calendar API arose and the committee concluded more discussion on that was needed. Dialogue about the direction in which mobile calendaring is going suggested that a document on how to use CalDAV efficiently on mobile devices would be useful.

TC RESOURCE focused its session on "discovery" of resources and whether that could be standardized. Cyrus Daboo of Apple presented the "Principal search" mechanism used by Apple. The committee also briefly touched upon other resource scheduling related tasks that could be discussed and standardized, during the session. The group further decided to meet specifically to decide the future of the TC.

TC TIMEZONE talked about the current status of the

published timezone draft specifications, service and xml data format. Cyrus Daboo of Apple brought the group up to date on the current state of the negotiations between IANA and the timezone community on providing a new home for timezone data.

The committee addressed the implications of a timezone service on protocols such as CalDAV which use etags to implement synchronization. In relation to this, they decided to carry out some research on clients and see in what ways they use timezone data currently.

TC USECASE had initial conversations about iSchedule's need for input from members representing User and SysAdmin/Engineer's perspectives especially concerning cross-domain scheduling. The session concluded with stimulating discussion of an overview of the v2 Draft Glossary.

TC XML addressed progress of iCalendar in XML through IETF. The bulk of the presentation was given over to the status of the recently released Cal-WS specification and related OASIS WS-Calendar specification. The committee also talked about the next steps for Cal-WS. Briefly noted were the questions of how the TC deals with the need for a new calendar query language and a standardized json representation.

FUTURE EVENTS

- ◆ **CalConnect XX**: February 7-11, 2011; University of California, Berkeley
- ◆ **CalConnect XXI**: May 23-27; NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View, California
- ◆ **CalConnect XXII**: October 3-7, 2011; Kerio Technologies, Plzen, Czech Republic

CalEco Update



During Roundtable XIX, Bryan Otis, CEO of Intand, updated everyone at the event about planning efforts for CalEco.org, the proposed website for promoting the adoption of digital calendaring. In addition to Bryan, the task force handling the planning consisted of Kellie Hunter, PeopleCube; Dan Mendell, dotCal; Mimi Mugler, UC Berkeley; Cameron Stillion, Binary Tree; Dave Thewlis, CalConnect Executive Director; and Maryann Karinch, communications consultant to CalConnect. The group had composed a narrative plan for the site, as well as two budgets—one reflecting significant volunteer efforts, and one a hard-costs budget reflecting little or no volunteer contributions. With the latter annual budget coming in at around \$90,000, the membership expressed concerns that the proposition was too

financially weighty at this point, and CalConnect should explore alternatives. Eventual adoption of the plan was not precluded by the decision; members simply expressed the position that incremental steps building to launching the site were prudent.

Bryan delivered a presentation in which he reminded members that CalEco.org should serve the purpose of the following:

1. Encouragement to use a Personal Digital Calendar
2. Information how to use the PDC they already have
3. Tutorials on how to connect all their calendars (Web / OS / Portable Device)

Rather than immediately look to a CalEco.org website as a program for achieving these goals, the group suggested vigorous blogging about the topic of digital calendaring.

Since that time, Gary Schwartz of RPI has contributed significant blog entries, which can be found at [The CalConnect Blog](#).

Thank you
to
IBM/Lotus
for hosting
Roundtable XIX



A few Roundtable XIX attendees enjoy dinner together.

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