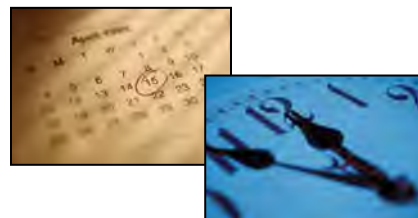


MINUTES



CalConnect THE CALENDARING AND SCHEDULING CONSORTIUM

Volume 3, Issue 2

July 2010

From the Executive Director

Dear Members,

It's with great pleasure that I want to announce a new *Member Focus* service.



CalConnect is expanding the Member News service on our blog. The addition is a

Member Focus service—a short introduction on the blog to a specific CalConnect member. It will include links to more information about the member, and possibly a significant press release or set of releases about a topic of interest to our members.

The regular Member News service gives members the opportunity to send us a link (with a very short explanation) to online material about calendaring-related news at their organization. This could be a product announcement, a service announcement, or more general information. For example, Duke offered information about the mobile calendaring and location services they had implemented for their student body.

As with Member News, the Member Focus service will be calendaring-related. In the case of some of our members, that is very easy to do. In other cases, such as academic

members or large vendors with a suite of offerings, the short piece will highlight the member's tools or services related to calendaring.

The intent is for the introduction posted on the blog to be quite short—no more than a paragraph or two at most—but provocative enough to interest someone to click through.

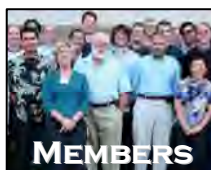


Here is the first of the series, provided by Dan Mendell of dotCal.

MEMBER FOCUS: dotCAL

dotCal is an Internet marketing service that helps consumers and businesses communicate event information across a variety of calendar programs. It is one of the first companies in this space that relies completely on today's standards, including CalDav and iCalendar 2.0. By doing so, dotCal lives the mission of interoperability fostered by CalConnect.

CEO and founder Dan Mendell explains the value of the standards-based approach this way: "CalDav and its associated standards give us a common ground for communicating. dotCal aims to



give users the practical benefits of these evolving standards so that their calendars operate across all platforms and social networks." The linked news and press releases about dotCal illustrate how the CalConnect standards approach is being embraced by companies and consumers in many different industries, and across many diverse consumption platforms. Website: <http://dotCal.com>; recent press releases: <http://dotCal.com/news>

I encourage you to participate in Member Focus as one more way of letting the community at large know what you are contributing to developments in the calendaring and scheduling space.



Who's next?

Dave Thewlis



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.
- ♦ To unsubscribe, send an e-mail to minutes-unsubscribe@calconnect.org with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

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TC IOPTTEST XVIII: Double Duty



The June 2010 CalConnect Interoperability Testing Event involved 15 attendees and was actually two distinct sets of testing. One set of vendors tested CalDAV and CardDAV. The second set of vendors tested mobile calendaring devices.

This was the third Mobile Calendaring Interoperability test event. The primary focus was Activesync and the CalConnect

Mobile Calendar Interoperability Test suite was used as the basis for testing. A copy of the test suite can be found in the resources section of the CalConnect website.

The test suite is quite large, so in order to ensure participants tested as much as possible during the three days, a subset of the test suite was chosen. The testing included calendar (vEvent), tasks (vTodo) and contacts (vCard).

Public documents containing summaries of all test events can be found by going to [#calconnectiops](http://www.calconnect.org/eventreports.shtm). Pat Egen of Patricia Egen Consulting serves as Interoperability Testing Event Manager.



CalDAV and CardDAV Participants

Organization	Versions Tested
Apple	iCal Server and client – OS X 10.6.1 Apple iCal 4.0 (SnowLeopard)
Kerio	server tested remotely
IceWarp	eM Client 2.7.7402

Mobile Participants

Organization	What was tested
Genentech	Observer
Icewarp	Server
MailSite	Server and Client (AstraSync 4.1.13)
Microsoft	Server and Client
Nokia	Client
Notify Technology	Client
Synchronica	Server

Thanks to our contributors to this issue of Minutes



Cyrus Daboo, Apple



Chuck Norris, Eventful



Bernard Desruisseaux, Oracle



Bryan Otis, Intand



Michael Douglass, RPI



Gary Schwartz, RPI



Pat Egen,
Patricia Egen Consulting



Guy Stalnaker,
University of Wisconsin



Steven Lees, Microsoft

Dave Thewlis, CalConnect

Tech Committee Summaries



The Internet Calendar Subscription Ad Hoc was established to investigate the creation and promotion of a single icon and method to be used on websites to indicate a calendar available for subscription or download. (See article on Page 4.) At the Roundtable, the group provided an overview of the use of Internet Calendars and comparison of the current user experience for common Feed (RSS/Atom) Subscription and Internet Calendar Subscription use cases today. After proposing possible actions that CalConnect and various other parties could take to improve the awareness and user experience for Internet Calendar Subscription, they recommended creation of full ICS Technical Committee.

TC CalDAV provided a status update on the revision of iMIP and on the "Collection Synchronization for WebDAV" Internet-Draft. The committee held open discussions on the calendar alarm extensions Internet-Draft.

TC EVENTPUB discussed the LINK property and a decision to leverage IANA registration. They acknowledged the need for Event LINK types around telephonic and WebX style virtual meetings. Moving forward the group will continue its recruiting, inside and outside of CalConnect, supporting the CalConnects overall membership efforts.

* The TC has since published its [LINK Property Extension to iCalendar](#), and the proposal has been submitted to the IETF as an Internet Draft. Please see [LINK Property Extension to iCalendar](#). This proposal introduces a new iCalendar property LINK to provide ancillary information for iCalendar components.

TC FREEBUSY addressed "consensus scheduling" and showed some interfaces, showing they have common features and a need to integrate with other services and calendar systems or clients. The group introduced a new icalendar component VPOLL and described the flow, including describing the new POLLRESPONSE property. They also mentioned the possibility of outreach to others who implement this style of service, e.g. Doodle and TimeBridge.

TC iSCHEDULE presented an overview of the iSchedule protocol, covering how DKIM can be leveraged by calendar systems for authentication and authorization purposes. They explained how the DNS can be used to allow a domain to authorize another domain to send scheduling requests on its behalf. The committee also discussed how an iSchedule interoperability event could be held where no prior arrangements would be required between iSchedule servers.

TC MOBILE discussed a report of the Mobile Interoperability test event held earlier in the week. They concluded the event was a success; follow-on events are being planned. Over the next months, the committee will work on producing a summary of the test event with the goal of using that document to promote testing to other vendors who were not present. They also intend to enhance the testing suite by adding more detail as well as example calendar data to streamline the testing process.

TC RESOURCE discussed some of the review comments that were received for the resource-schema draft. Also, they briefly discussed how the additional information can be put to use with the DAV protocols.

TC TIMEZONE gave a brief overview of the two documents, now published and described below, and discussed major issues to be addressed: maintaining the source of the data from Olson and his successor and the implications of the service on standards and protocols. (Note: Arthur

David Olson has retired and there are probably implications for the supply of timezone data. The tz database, also known as the Olson database, is a collaborative compilation of information about the world's time zones, primarily intended for use with computer programs and operating systems.)

* The TC has since published [Timezone Service Protocol](#) and [Timezone XML Specification](#), and the proposals have been submitted to the IETF as Internet Drafts. Please see [Timezone Service Protocol](#) and [Timezone XML Specification](#). The Timezone Service Protocol defines a timezone service protocol that allows reliable, secure and fast delivery of timezone information to client systems such as calendaring and scheduling applications or operating systems. The Timezone XML Specification describes a format for describing timezone information for software and services.

TC USECASE presented the state of their glossary work, talked about RFC 3283 and whether the committee should jettison explicit references to it in the glossary, and worked on some of the terms that remain to be reviewed. Looking forward, they will continue the glossary work and will plan on completing it before summer's end.

TC XML discussed two way reference mapping from iCal to XML. They looked at generalized calendar API and a web services binding, which is being developed with OASIS/NIST and other Smart Energy players. They also considered the CalWS effort and to which standards body the work should be submitted. They asked that Executive Director Dave Thewlis discuss their preference for the full standard to be published by OASIS with OASIS legal personnel. Failing that, they would seek inclusion in WS CALENDAR and joint publication or credit of the combined draft.

UserSIG met with Genentech representatives and talked about their migration to GoogleApps. Cozi.

The Making of a Pop Icon



The Web has helped us forge new types of connections with each other, so making it easier to connect with calendars is only a natural progression to what is happening in other areas. Look to the incredible amount of content on Blogs, Twitter and Facebook that links individual to individual, as well as individuals to huge audiences. The success of these three has resulted in the use of icons that correspond to the content that they produce. When the RSS icon (or "chicklet" as some are referring to such icons) appears in the 24x24 form it normally takes on a website, the people who have traveled to the website know that by clicking on the icon, they are going to be subscribing to the content of the blog they are reading. The same thought process is true of a Twitter or Facebook icon. It's just a simple way of connecting.

What does this have to do with calendars? Currently, the DSI Technical Committee is soliciting ideas for a calendar icon. Why is this important? Because presenting the web with a common icon that represents "click me for calendar content" is important in helping to encourage current or potential web-based calendar users to harness a feature that is uniquely beneficial to electronic calendars over paper ones. Paper calendars simply cannot "connect" to a high school football schedule or a yoga class schedule. This easy connection advantage is one of the major features that makes web-

based calendars so compelling as organization tools. To accelerate their adoption is all-together exciting, humbling and challenging.

I noted that DSI Technical Committee is "currently soliciting" icon ideas, because so far, we are still in the idea stage and welcome input. The icon needs to be easy to understand, convey that clicking it means you are going to get calendar contact (in some form), and follow in the same design constraints that other icons have (e.g., RSS, Twitter, Facebook, and Digg). Most importantly, it needs to be something that everyone wants to make use of. Browsers, applications, websites ... everyone.



There is an old saying, "if a tree falls in the woods, but no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound?" The same could be said of this upcoming calendar icon. If we achieve all that we want with the icon, and yet no one uses it, then were we successful in helping to promote one of CalConnect's major objectives: to promote calendaring and scheduling to the information technology industry and the general public? The answer would be an emphatic "no."

Let us all then push towards a great icon that everyone is excited about and wants to use.

If you have any icon suggestions, please email them to our newsletter editor, Maryann Karinch (maryann@karinch.com).

Thanks!

Bryan Otis
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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, Dartmouth, dotCal, Eventful, Fresno State, 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, Scalix, Stanford University, Stockholm University, SWAMI (Swedish Alliance for Middleware Infrastructure), Synchronica, TimeBridge, University of California, University of Wisconsin, Yahoo!, and Zimbra.

Roundtable XVIII Roundup



Roundtable XVIII took place on May 26-28 2010, hosted by Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The event was attended by 27 people from 18 organizations, including one observer. The CalConnect Interoperability Test Events occurred immediately prior to the Roundtable on May 24-26. Eight members and 15 people participated in the regular and Mobile Calendaring IOP Test Events. With some people attending both an IOP Test Event and the Roundtable, the total count of participants for the week was 34.

The Mobile Calendar IOP Test Event featured ActiveSync testing, and six member organizations participated; three organizations participated in the

"regular" IOP Test Event. (Details in the article on Page 2.)

The Roundtable was dedicated to technical committee sessions, and informal discussions and networking, with an all-hands Plenary meeting as the last item on Friday afternoon. As usual, the Technical Committee sessions were organized sequentially, without competing parallel sessions, to allow all attendees who wished to be involved in the discussions of each Technical Committee the opportunity to do so.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Dr. Steven Lee, Professor and Head of the School of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University, gave a talk on his view of calendaring and the current challenges he faces in two roles: as Head of a department that schedules many campus events, and as the IT person for a small business, his architecture practice. Dr. Lee invited interested participants on a tour of the [Intelligent Workplace](#) project at CMU on Friday morning.



Thank you
to the
Carnegie Mellon
University
for hosting
Roundtable XVIII



REGISTER NOW

CALCONNECT XIX

**IBM/LOTUS
LITTLETON, MASS.**

**TEST EVENT
♦
OCTOBER 4-6**

**ROUNDTABLE
♦
OCTOBER 6-8**



PHOTO: Roundtable XVIII participants on a beautiful day in Pittsburgh.

FUTURE EVENTS

- ♦ **CalConnect XIX**: October 4-8, 2010; IBM/Lotus, Littleton, Massachusetts
- ♦ **CalConnect XX**: January 31 - February 4, 2011; TBD
- ♦ **CalConnect XXI**: May 23-27 or June 6-10, 2011; TBD
- ♦ **CalConnect XXII**: October 3-7, 2011; Kerio Technologies, Plzen, Czech Republic