

Minutes of SPC 135P
EMCS Message Protocol
June 27, 1987
Nashville, Tennessee

Attendance

Voting Members

Steve Bushby
Bruce Westphal
Jim Coggins
Jim Ford
Joe Prokop
Lawrence Gelburd
Jim Rice
Bert Murphy
Gideon Shavit
Greg Salomon
Eino O. Kainlauri
Mike Newman

Non-Voting Members

Paul Humphrey
Jim Herdeman
Jeff Cosiol
Kim E. Shinn
Richard Bauer
Fil M. Buenviase
Neil R. Patterson
James H. Turner
Viktor Boed
David Schwenk
Ira Goldschmidt

Visitors

Maurice Wolla
David Fisher
Dennis A. Stanke
Dave Kittrell
Buland A. Mahmood
R. Michael Martin
(Standards Comm.
Liaison)
Larry Korak
Dennis Mool
Rand E. (Randy) Fay

Absent

Richard Morley

1. Call to Order by Chairman Mike Newman at 1:00 p.m.
2. Chairman, Mike Newman, discussed the history leading to the formation of this committee. Steve Bushby was appointed secretary of the committee. At this time, everyone in attendance introduced themselves.
3. The Standards Committee Liaison, Mr. Sandvordenker, was introduced. He informed the group that the Standards Committee has formally approved the SPC-135P membership roster submitted by Mike Newman. He also announced that effective at the end of this week a new Liaison, Mr. R. Michael Martin would replace him. A copy of the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting establishing SPC-135P was distributed.
4. The purpose and scope of SPC-135P, as outlined by the Standards Committee, was discussed.
5. Mike Newman outlined the methodology of standard development as presented in Appendix A to the ASHRAE Standards Committee Manual of Procedures. The importance of reaching a "consensus" as defined by ASHRAE and addressing all objections was emphasized.
6. A lengthy discussion took place about what a successful end product of the committee would be. It was agreed that a close look at relevant work by other bodies was needed to avoid "reinventing the wheel." The discussion resulted in a list of desirable attributes of a good protocol.

- a. Interoperability - independence of any particular manufacturer's hardware
- b. Efficiency
- c. Low overhead
- d. Seek highest common multiplier rather than lowest common denominator
- e. Compatibility with other applications and networks
- f. Layered architecture along the lines of the ISO model
- g. Flexibility
 - i. not limited to present hardware technology
 - ii. can be implemented in parts
 - iii. permits the use of multiple kinds of physical mediums
- h. Extensibility
- i. Cost effectiveness
- j. Transmission reliability
- k. Must apply to "real-time" processes
- l. Maximum simplicity
- m. Should allow priority schemes
- n. Fairness with respect to medium access
- o. Stability under realistic loads

A request was made to include a copy of criteria from the Energy Industries Association in the minutes.

7. The most appropriate method of dividing the committee into working groups to focus on specific areas and report back to the committee was discussed at length. It was decided that the purpose of the working groups should be to provide information and recommendations to the full committee pertaining to their subject area.

Each working group has the responsibility to clarify and define nomenclature which pertains to their area.

Each working group has the responsibility to review existing protocols and standards for information relevant to their task. Steve Bushby was asked to use the resources of NBS to facilitate this process as much as possible.

Assignment to a working group will pertain to committee members only. All working groups will, however, be open to participation by interested outside parties.

8. A motion was made by Steve Bushby to form three working groups with responsibilities as outlined in handouts presented to the members. Motion seconded by Jim Coggins. Motion carried.
9. Chairman Mike Newman appointed working group chairmen as follows:

Primitive Data Format Working Group - Mike Newman
 Application Services Working Group - Steve Bushby
 Data Type and Attribute Working Group - Lawrence Gelburd

Members volunteered for assignments to working groups and membership lists are attached.

10. ASHRAE Standards Coordinator Brenda Badger was introduced to the committee. She complimented the committee on a productive and useful meeting.
11. Users present were asked to outline problems they have experienced which they hope the committee can address. They included:
 - a. A need for a universal operator interface
 - b. Would like to be able to add field panels or unitary controllers from other vendors to their existing systems
 - c. Exchange of sensor information between field devices
 - d. Gateways to connect entire independent systems
12. Steve Bushby announced plans for the National Bureau of Standards to begin developing a "Building Management and Communications Protocols Laboratory." This laboratory will be an expansion of the current Building Controls Research Laboratory. The purpose of the laboratory is to provide testing and evaluation facilities for use by NBS and industry for studying protocols and determining compliance with standards. NBS will be encouraging participation by controls manufacturers in this effort and plans to provide technical support to this committee wherever possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven T. Bushby
Steven T. Bushby

Attachments:

Standards Meeting Minutes of January 18, 1987, New York
Description and membership of working groups
Article on ASHRAE Standards Committee from ASHRAE Journal, October, 1979.
Goals of a proposed protocol for EIA CEBus