Minutes

Letter from the Executive Director

On December 14, 2004, we distributed the news release announcing the formation of CalConnect. The 16 founding members have grown in numbers to 14 universities, 20 companies, and 2 open source organizations.

As we usher in our fifth year of regular Roundtables and interoperability testing events, we can say with certainty that we've tackled most of the issues we set out to face. We have also succeeded with a good number and are well on our way with others. Of course, we've also discovered some new things that need addressing, so the agenda seems as full as it always was.

In this issue of CalConnect Minutes, we cover some important strides forward in terms of technical understanding, as well as participation. The community of CalConnect is now truly international, so the ability to solve those really complicated problems now has a more diverse group of great minds in calendaring and scheduling devoted to them.

Feel free to pass the newsletter around. Use it as a way of updating colleagues and media on why CalConnect continues to serve a practical need. And contribute to it directly in the "Member News and Announcements" section.

Dave Thewlis

Register Now:

CalConnect XIV

Interoperability Test Event

February 2-4

Roundtable

February 4-6

Hosted by

Microsoft

About CalConnect *Minutes*

- Issued after each CalConnect Roundtable and Interoperability Event, 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, and summaries of progress made in those TCs.

- This is also a source for details on upcoming CalConnect meetings and conferences.

Inside this issue:

CalConnect to Host Timezone Workshop

CalConnect will host a one-day Timezone Workshop on Tuesday, February 3, 2009, at Microsoft in Redmond, Washington. This workshop is intended for and open by invitation to parties with an interest in Timezones, how they are currently implemented and managed, and what to do about them in the future. We particularly want to attract representatives of other industry and technology areas to gain a broad perspective on the problems with Timezones as implemented today, and the relevance of our proposed direction. You do not need to be a CalConnect member to attend the workshop. Please see Timezone Workshop for more information, and to request

CalConnect   THE CALENDARING AND SCHEDULING CONSORTIUM

January 2009

IOP Test Event Results

The thirteenth CalConnect interoperability event—the largest to date—was held at the Yahoo! campus at Sunnyvale, California on October 6-8. Participants included Apple, Google, IBM, Kerio Technologies, Microsoft, PeopleCube, RPI (Bedework), Scalix, Sun Microsystems, and Yahoo!/Zimbra.

Eight CalDAV servers were tested against 4 CalDAV clients. iSchedule, a new specification, was tested as well by several servers. Examples of what was tested by are

- CalDAV access
- CalDAV scheduling

- CalDAV free/busy
- CalDAV availability
- CalDAV delegation

In addition, two vendors tested their application's support for iCalendar, iTIP and iMIP. There were several clients who were testing iCalendar, iMIP and iTIP against regular clients as well as against several CalDAV servers so the CalDAV servers could test how they handled iMIP requests.

For descriptions of issues, problems, and solutions emerging from CalDAV testing and iCalendar testing, please see the CalConnect Interoperability Test Report October 2008.

The most significant takeaway from this event was CalDAV clients were able to test with the majority of the servers. In the past, because things were often not finished or applications had issues, it was not possible to complete testing. The fact that one client was able to test successfully against 8 servers during a two-day process shows tremendous progress. iCalendar testing worked far better than in the past as well. It is clear that strong interoperability efforts have been made and are being made by many of the vendors present.

Pat Egen, IOP Test Event

CalConnect in Europe

CalConnect held its second Mobile Calendaring Interoperability Test Event on November 4-6 at Kerio Technologies offices in the Czech Republic. Icewarp, Kerio, Oracle, Symbian, and Synthesis participated, indicating the growing role of European companies in CalConnect's technical work in the mobile area.

Tests involved calendar interoperability among 3 clients and 4 servers. Participants tested calendar data synchronization between a mobile device and a server using OMA DS (aka SyncML) and Microsoft Exchange ActiveSync® protocols. The test cases were selected from CalConnect's Mobile Calendar Interoperability Test Suite and run in combinations of client and server implementations from different vendors.

Following the Test Event, CalConnect hosted an invitational Meet CalConnect event in Prague, Czech Republic, on November 7, and repeated in London on November 10. Representatives of 5 members of CalConnect participated in the events

Roundtable XIII

Roundtable XIII took place October 8-10, immediately after the interoperability testing event. (See above story.) A total of 52 people from 19 organizations attended, including representatives from two observers, which are organizations attending a Roundtable to see if they wish to join.

The Roundtable was dedicated to technical committee sessions, BOFs, and informal discussions

and networking, with an all-hands plenary meeting as the last item on Friday afternoon.

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. (See story on page 3.)

An additional ten invitees joined the group for the Technical Previews session on Wednesday afternoon. The previews demonstrated live interoperability in the areas of

- CalDAV Scheduling,
- iSchedule Server-Server scheduling, and
- Free/Busy URL.

C a l C o n n e c t   THE CALENDARING AND SCHEDULING CONSORTIUM

New Member:

neutralSpace, Inc

Welcome to the developers of dotCal Global Calendaring Hub and Social Network Environment

Membership of neutralSpace reflects the recent growth of CalConnect through the addition of young, innovative companies. neutralSpace, was founded in early 2007 "to explore and leverage upcoming disruptive changes in calendaring and internet infrastructure."

Danton (Dan) Mendell, President and CEO of neutralSpace stated, "Our innovative and open-source solutions to these difficult coordination problems make collaboration within the CalConnect standards a natural step. Our mission for dotCal is to do for calendar sharing what email did for messaging—and we believe the best way to ensure that happens is through an open-source approach and a partnership with CalConnect."

Thank you to Yahoo!/Zimbra for hosting the October Testing and Roundtable Events and to Kerio Technologies for hosting the November Testing Event and Press Conference in Europe—CalConnect's first in Europe.

We also appreciate Microsoft's expression of support through hosting the upcoming Testing and Roundtable Events in Redmond, Washington.

Update on Technical Committees . . . *from Roundtable XIII*

TC CALDAV continues work on its latest scheduling draft, which includes implicit scheduling. Work on calendar roles will be resumed once the scheduling issues have been resolved.

TC EVENTPUB presented use cases concerning event publication and venue information, and proposed solutions. The TC will do a formal proposal.

TC FREEBUSY summarized its work on the FREEBUSY READ URL draft proposal. The TC will continue work on finalizing the draft and begin consideration of issues involving richer Freebusy information and availability/ office hours.

TC IOPTEST reported on the IOP test event just completed and on plans to start collecting and reporting on bug and issue information discovered during the IOP tests. The TC will look into the possibility of an iCalendar parser to be made available on the CalConnect website. The TC also presented a live demo of the new Virtual Test Lab facility.

TC iSCHEDULE presented the status of the draft protocol. Discussion focused on URI schemes and security provisions, such as relying on SSL certificates or to move to S-MIME certificates in the payload rather than the transport layer. The TC will

work on the formal protocol.

TC MOBILE reported on work since the last Roundtable and presented feedback from the Open Mobile Alliance Data Synchronization working group on the TC's recently published work products: Mobile Calendar Interoperability Test Suite V1.1 and Mobile Recurrence Interoperability Recommendations. Plans for future interoperability testing were discussed, including the second CalConnect Mobile Calendaring Interoperability Test Event and beta testing of the CalConnect Virtual Test Labs. The next work item for the TC will be a "CalDAV considerations for mobile calendaring" paper.

TC USECASE presented its work on a new Resource Recommendations document which includes congruences between iCalendar and vCard. The TC will develop a formal document for publication and will work to provide its recommendations for vCard extensions to the IETF in time for its November meeting.

TC XML reported on its work to date in developing a round-trippable transform of iCalendar data to/from XML, including an outline of what the XML data would look like and a Relax NG Schema. Going forward the TC will resolve open issues and prepare a formal draft document.

CalConnect THE CALENDARING AND SCHEDULING CONSORTIUM

January 2009

Industry News: FYI

Whatever can be spammed and phished will be. . .

In a January 2 posting on AllSpammedUp, author Dan Blacharski covers a new type of phishing scam that targets web-based calendaring services. CalConnect recognizes that spamming and phishing are not just limited to the email space and intends to address the threat. Readers of *Minutes* are welcome to submit comments and ideas to the Executive Director.

New CalDAV Protocol Site

A new website for the CalDAV Protocol has been established at CalDAV Protocol Home Page. CalDAV is a calendaring and scheduling client/server protocol designed to allow users to access calendar data on a server, and to schedule meetings with other users on that server or other servers. The CalDAV Access protocol has been standardized by the IETF and published as RFC 4791.

EDST Report to Congress

The Department of Energy has presented Congress with a report on the Impact of Extended Daylight Savings Time on National Energy Consumption. The primary motivation for extending DST was to realize a savings in energy use, but the DOE report indicates that only a small energy reduction was achieved by EDST since implementing it in 2007. The EDST change caused problems for calendaring and scheduling system vendors and users. CalConnect produced a document reviewing the impact of the change and offering recommendations on how to fix problems: EDST Reflections and Recommendations. The Timezone TC is also working on ways to improve timezone and DST information; this has led to a Timezone Workshop (See Page 1.)

Member News and Announcements

This section is reader-generated.

Send your article of no more than 150 words to maryann@karinch.com. Product announcements are acceptable as long as they are linked to the standards and interoperability solutions that are the focus of CalConnect's work.

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, Cabo Communications, Carnegie Mellon, Dartmouth, Duke University, Eventful, Fresno State, Google, IBM, Kerio Technologies, MailSafe, Microsoft, Mozilla Foundation,

neutralSpace, New York University, Oracle, Patricia Egen Consulting, PeopleCube, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Scalix, Sony Ericsson, Stanford University, Stockholm University, Sun Microsystems, SWAMI (Swedish Alliance for Middleware Infrastructure), Symbian, Synchronica, TimeBridge, University of California, University of Chicago, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, University of Washington, University of Wisconsin, Yahoo!/Zimbra.

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