Notes from NeXus Tech VC 14/01/2008

Present: Freddie Akeroyd (FAA), Mark Koennecke (MK), Paul Kienzle (PK), Pete Jemian (PJ), Peter Peterson (PFP), Stuart Campbell (SIC)

The following matters were discussed:

NeXus 4.2 API

C++ API – is it possible to do it purely in headers and so not need separate builds for gcc and visual studio on windows? Decided to leave as is for the moment, but FAA/PFP to investigate when time permits. Should be possible – boost work like this for most things.

IDL build problems – need to get host directory set correctly and also allow option to build 32 bit on 64 bit machine. FAA/SIC investigate. MK/SIC will also update the Documentation to note that the IDL bindings are currently in beta form.

Python test issue with hdf4 and xml – PK will investigate. One issue is caused by 64bit integers not being available on hdf4 – probably easiest to skip this test.

"Strict aliasing" – looks like calls to NXmalloc() break the strict aliasing rule; need to add -fno-strict-aliasing to build flags

We should run the IDL test program as part of a "make check" on machines with IDL

Try to get 4.2rc3 out by end of week if all can be fixed

NXDL and schema

LGPL license will be added to files pending review of creative commons licenses. SNS is reviewing the DTD -> NXDL conversion to check for any missing items.

Two main technical issue remaining:

- We need to sort out how to do dimensions

- We also need to consolidate how we will actually validate the files

Two trac tickets will be created for offline discussion.

FAA / PJ will also work on modifying nxvalidate to work with schema generated from nxdl

Documentation

PJ is working on a NDXL -> DocBook stylesheet for documentation of definitions. PFP is working on the main DocBook manual.

O-O nexus

A topic for next meeting – MK's original class document will be recirculated

Next meeting

Wednesday 18 February, same bat time (1300 GMT / 0800 EST), same bat channel.

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