

File 20111025.1100: Notes from Systems Engineering staff meeting, conducted by Kevin Miller:

Pete Marikle flying in tonight. The Phoenix (Goodyear, AZ) site has been completely closed down. Pete gets retirement *plus* a severance package on top of it (26 weeks, one week for every year he has been with the company). It is the same deal Greg Shettlesworth and Mike Pahl took. It works out pretty well for Pete. Kevin said Pete is taking it now because the company couldn't guarantee the same sweet package after 1st January. It is likely that severance packages will be reduced after 1st January. The company is trying to get volunteers but is having trouble finding enough of them.

TISS is at rock bottom and will be for the next year. It is the same new business model problem causing it.

News: the programme office officially signed up for Linux on 6.0. The 5.1 patch will be large, containing much new functionality. RM 5.0 will go on the UCDMO sunset list in January 2015, so 5.1 must be ready in 2014, before the end of 2014.

If LM has any money, it will go to TMAN, which is the company's product. TMAN still has only two customers and is not likely to get any more; RM has 400 customers and winning new ones all the time. TMAN have never won a competition against RM on features. Sandia, for example, recently sent back a bid asking for a lower price if they give up some features, indicating that Sandia really want RM. The 'merger' of RM and TMAN likely will never happen. The Navy won't allow it; the Air Force doesn't care much about TMAN; the corporation will not spend the \$5 million or so necessary to do it. Steve Bean announced the merger with great fanfare at an all-hands, but that is all he wanted to do; he wants to look good to his higher-ups, so all he ever does is these regular 'Brain Trust' meetings where little of substance gets done. Somehow it seems TMAN have endless money to do things; e.g., putting TMAN and RM in series to do PL-5. RM completed its work in short order; TMAN spent much more and has not accomplished their portion of the work yet. Kevin Miller said, 'Steve Bean has never managed to separate himself from "his" product, TMAN'.

Kevin out this Thursday and on vacation next week. Lots of changes coming soon to revamp for Linux on 6.0. ClearCASE is going away; the department has never owned a licence for the product—it is licenced through corporate—and so we will be using a different, open source CM tool. Lots of programmes are going to open source CM, especially to git. TISS will probably go with git.

Git is very fast, lightweight, and Angie likes it. All the commercial source code control products are dead, says Kevin. The attention is all on git. Git also handles binaries, which ClearCASE can't do. Git does something like deduplication automatically.

Quite a bit of new hardware coming in; servers and switches. Kevin ordered some new switched to keep us away from having half the floor go dark in case of a failure. Got another \$67K to spend on hardware; he's ordering a new storage array, which makes Jackie happy. She always needs more storage, she said.

ISO 27001 (security) audit coming up. It is of the unclassified systems only. Kevin will be audited. Mostly, the audit is the responsibility of corporate, but Olav doesn't understand that, said Kevin. TISS are the only programme in the building being audited.

References