

Network Noise

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Terry Christie, Editor

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East Tennessee Technology Park

Jane Nations, CAIS Administrator/Inspection Coordinator

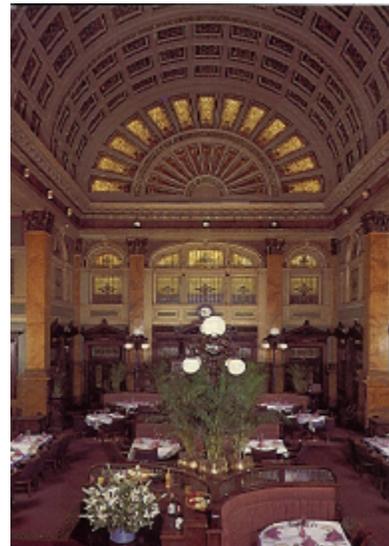
Work at ETTP is continuing to progress as planned, even though our project team is seeing a multitude of changes in both scope and teaming partners. We are in our 9th month working on the Facility Management, Surveillance, Inspection and Testing (FMSIT) project, as a sub-tier contractor to Bechtel Jacobs. As with other contractors on site, the concept of transitioning work from the M&I has been difficult at times, but is slowly becoming less of a challenge, as we acclimate ourselves to the new mode of operations. Working directly with Commodore Advanced Sciences has been a real treat to us, as they have been more than helpful in accommodating our team and the Condition Assessment Program. We have recently seen the results of that effort by receiving a work release to assist in the Deferred Maintenance/Condition Assessment effort at Portsmouth. We are also attempting to knock on doors at Y-12 in an effort to encourage their participation in the Deferred Maintenance effort. We anticipate a positive response, and hopefully will continue to grow work for our team.

Pantex - Post CAS

Bob Von Eschen

The new Pantex management contractor BWXPantex has not placed any personnel on site as yet. Also at this level we have not been given guidance for future planning, thus we have no clue on how the FY01 budget will be applied. Non-management recommendations are being written to re-establish the CAS program with Predictive Maintenance included. We have some indication in the News Media that some Infrastructure improvement money is to be

added to the currently approved budget. Personnel coming and going rate has seen no real change, and we have not been told what the new contractor has committed for a workforce level. Thus, not much new, but a lot of hope for a renewed CAS effort.



Station Square Grand Concourse

Monitor Musings

Ken Baker, DOE HQ

LONG LIVE CAIS!

Who said CAIS was finished? CAIS is like a cat, it has nine lives! Life 1: It runs out of money in 1995 and shuts down only to come back for five more years of duty and now Life 2: It has survived a non support scare from its parent organization. The CAS program offices have been requested to continue their CAS funding support for FY2001 by the Chief Financial Officer. Yes friends, CAIS is sticking around for a while along with yours truly for at least 14 months. It now appears some old users are coming back to the CAIS table for their tender vittles. Welcome back Y-12, NASA Glen, and Portsmouth. The prodigal kittens have returned.

Kudos to Brett Platko, Ken Rowe, Dennis McDermitt, and Jesse Oak for pulling the CAIS 2000 rabbit out of the hat over the last several months. As the technical monitor, I can say CAIS 2000 is a viable active program/process. Training at Pittsburgh went well judging from the feedback and list of enhancements the users want. Yes, costing works this time along with reporting features. Dennis or Brett will have more to say about that in the newsletter. Many thanks to Ron Harp for reserving and setting up the training class and tours of the Pittsburgh and Morgantown sites. Our dinner at Station Square and the trip up the Incline on Wednesday evening was great.



Monongahela Incline, Pittsburgh

We will be working on enhancements suggested by the users over the next several weeks. We are discussing releasing the enhancements either as one new release or separate releases, which will require more administrative work on Dennis's part. We prefer one release estimated to occur around mid December that includes all High, Medium and Low priority enhancement features discussed at the conclusion of the training session. This reduces administrative work and permits testing of the complete package rather than a three part piecemeal release approach. Let us know what your prefer, you can reach me at kenneth.c.baker@hq.doe.gov.

Terry and I are working on the next meeting in Las Vegas planned for either March or April. We hope to find a hotel on the upper end of the Strip that honors Government per diem rates.

Chairman Notes

Terry Christie, ORNL

I received word several weeks ago that Mitzie Stone is leaving the YMP on 10/26/00 for a trainer position with PSDI (Maximo). We will miss her but wish her well in her new endeavor. The meeting in Pittsburgh went well. I was very pleased to see the much-anticipated CAIS2000 coming together in a usable form. It has been a long wait but hopefully the light is at the end of the tunnel. Thanks for the great work of Ken Rowe, Dennis McDermitt and Jesse Oak. Also thanks to Brett Platko for holding it all together throughout the whole process.

As Ken Baker has already said we are working on the next meeting. We hope by the time of the next meeting that the new CAIS2000 will be in use by the sites and we will have some discussion on the benefits of the new program. We would also like to have some site reports at this meeting. We would like to know what the sites are doing with their program. I know some sites have diversified their services and we would be interested to know what projects they have taken on. Please let me know if you would be interested in giving a presentation of your program.

The Newsletter will continue as well as the monthly conference calls. I am working on updating the net list and should have it out by the end of the week. If there are any corrections or changes once you receive it please let me know and I will correct any misinformation.

Thanks to those who sent articles for this newsletter. I hope that you will continue to think it is benefit to you. I think it at least lets us know what is going on with the other sites that we might now have much contact with.

DEVELOPER DISCLOSER

Brett Platko, DynCorp

CAIS 2000 was formally released this month and thanks to all who participated in the design and pilot reviews. For those of you who have not had the "pleasure?" of checking out the newest version of CAIS, tune your browsers to the cas.hr.doe.gov web page and select CAIS Software Development. This page covers features, system requirements and screen shots of version 1.0 of the CAIS 2000 application.

Do we have your interest... If your thinking - "I gotta get me some of this..." and you are a DOE site, it's yours - just call the CAIS Help Desk (301.903.0823) and ask for the CAIS 2000 CD". We will immediately ship you out an install CD. If you are not a DOE sponsored site, call the Help Desk we will arrange to get you in on the CAS bandwagon and get you a CD.

So just what is in the works for the next release of the system - Well the next planned release is in mid December and includes the following enhancements:

- A Table Maintenance screen - this will assist you customizing types in tailoring CAIS 2000 for your site.
- Color-coding to identify require fields for IU creation and Costing.
- OK, OK.. We are adding the ability to delete an asset.
- New "Work Order" field - you asked for it - you got it.
- The ability to define "Inspection Source" at the asset level - a great time saver.
- You will also be able to cost an entire asset from the Asset Maintenance screen - this will update all associated IUs (kind of like a Calculating-Costing-Cascade).
- Multi-user support - for your inspection posse.
- No pre-defined caps for the Inspector Estimates.

The complete list of CAIS 2000 enhancements can be found on the CAIS web site. By the way, if you are also interested in having custom "IU types" developed for your site, (ie, stainless steel ducts or padded walls), complete the request form posted on the CAIS web site. We will task the most accomplished Jesse Oak to research / develop these for you.

Once again, thanks to all of you that help with the development and testing of CAIS 2000 and check out the web site for latest information on CAIS 2000.



Ken Rowe and Dennis McDermitt