

API RBI Software Working Group Meeting Report November 15, 2004

Working Group Meetings

A SWG and TWG meeting was held in Houston on November 15th. The group took this opportunity to reflect on the current state of the project and evaluate the plans for 2005.

Discussion

After discussion, the group concluded that the current schedule for 2005 is too aggressive and continuation will send a false signal to the users and public that the software is in continuous flux and not ready for production. It is our belief that it is critical at this stage to freeze the technology and allow the users to catch-up before any additional major modifications or major changes are made to the software. The group unanimously agreed that V6.01 would contain all the key technical capabilities necessary to upgrade existing RBI databases and full production implementation including inspection planning.

Recommended Plan Forward

It is the recommendation of the SWG that the project release V6.01 as the final version for production use in 2005. The focus of the development and training in 2005 should be to get this tool into widespread production use in the market and continue with improvements to make the software more user friendly and improve reporting and data management capabilities.

The V6.01 tools and additional capabilities identified by the working group to achieve the objectives above are:

- **Import/Export excel tool** – This tool would be developed specifically for V6.01 data requirements and would function similarly to the V3.3.3 tool that was eliminated in V5.0. Excel is a relatively simple tool for widespread use as long as the user understands the need of databases to have data in a fixed format. The problems encountered with the spreadsheet in V3.3.3 will continue with this V6.01 tool.
- **File Browser** – V6.01 currently has the ability for the user to have one major database. Multiple databases are managed by manually changing the database file names to move between databases. A browser will allow users to create and maintain more than one database, such as different corporations or plants.
- **Data Append** – This capability will allow the user to move/copy of a unit into an individual database for use in the field or by another user. The revised unit file would be copied back to the master database after modification and reanalysis, as required.
- **Archiving Data** – With the ability to add unlimited components to the database as well as adding components for multiple operating conditions, replacement or repairs, etc. the database will become difficult to manage. An archive capability should be added to allow the user to move archived information or not include this equipment in analysis or reporting.
- **Report Enhancements** – Minimal reports have been developed and are available in the software. A task group has been assigned to develop a list of reports and specific information that would be reported as input to E²G.

- Filtering capability improvements – The current database filtering functionality is limited while the potential to customize reporting is great. A task group assigned to developing the improvements has been formed for input to E²G on filtering options to be added.
- Inspection Planning Module Modifications – Modify the current inspection planning module to accept maximum likelihood and/or consequence regardless of risk target value. The current risk target method allows likelihood to rise to unacceptable levels for some users.

Beyond 2005

The software release plans for future years would be to limit new releases to once or twice a year in order to demonstrate the stability of the project and minimize the burden on corporate IT groups. The following items will be delayed until late 2005 or 2006.

- Boilers
- HTHA improvements
- Creep module
- Thermal Fatigue module
- Heater module
- RSF Approach
- Improved inspection planning