

Minutes of the PWG Web Based Monitoring and Management meeting – 4 June 2003

Bill Wagner, 4 Jun 03

Attendees

- Kelli Kennedy, HP (Editor)
- Ira McDonald, High North
- Bob Taylor, HP
- Bill Wagner, NetSilicon (Committee Chairman)
- Peter Zehler, Xerox

Discussion Items

The phone conference start was switched from Noon to 1pm EDT to avoid a conflict with the uPnP Imaging Phone Conference.

1. There were no comments on the May 28 Minutes, which were thereby accepted.
2. In considering the revised charter,
ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/wbmm/charter/Charter_Proposal_3.pdf

Kelli questioned the reference to WBMM providing management support to PSI. Ira responded that, until recently, PSI did not have management capability and was, indeed looking to WBMM to provide that support. Even with the recent addition of a “set” operation to PSI, a parallel management capability can be used to provide necessary support for setting up policies, accounting etc.

It was agreed to submit the proposed charter to the PWG. It is posted for comments, and any issues may be discussed at the Portland meeting.

3. Although it had been agreed at the previous meeting that the scenarios should include non-printing imaging instances, there were no submissions of additional; scenarios and examples to cover MFD and other non--printing use examples. Several individuals indicated that they would try to provide such examples.
4. The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing Harry’s suggested operations <ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/wbmm/WSDL> and Bill’s questions and comments in their regard. Although these notes reflect suggestions made, it is desirable that these subjects be reviewed at the Portland meeting where more opinions may be considered.

Harry had proposed the following operations:

```
GetAttributes
SetAttributes
ExecuteCommand (Reset, OpPanelMessage, Off-line,
                LockOpPanel, DownloadCode)
GetAll
Register
Unregister
```

- a. In response to the question about the preferred term, Ira suggested that “element” was preferable to the term “attribute”. Although “element” appears to be formally correct and is recommended, there may be some objection because some common usage in similar circumstances tends to use the term ‘attribute’.

- b. There was general agreement on the inclusion of the GetElement and SetElement operations. However, Ira suggested that there be a distinction between Device elements and Service elements, so that there would be:

```
GetDeviceElement
GetServiceElement
SetDeviceElement
SetServiceElement
```

The need for this differentiation appears to relate to how the elements are identified. By making the differentiation in the operation, similar names could be used for service and device elements.

- c. It was understood that the parameters in a GET or SET operation would be a list of elements referring to one of several possible schemas. The operation command itself would be an instance of an XML document, with the schema defined in the structure. Alternatively, the element names themselves could be fully qualified with the schema to which each element refers.

- d. In response to the question of why items such as Reset, OpPanelMessage, Off-line, LockOpPanel, which previously were handled as management items, now in a special execute command message, the contention was expressed that specific actions should be communicated as operations rather than as management objects (or elements). The opinion was further expressed that such actions should be treated as basic operations rather than being expressed as parameters of a more abstract “ExecuteCommand” operation. Finally, Ira suggested that the operations of this type should include those proposed as the IPP Set 3 operations.

* DisableDevice - Prevents the output device from accepting jobs with any job submission protocol.

* EnableDevice - Allows the output device to accept jobs from any job submission protocol.

* PauseDeviceNow - Stops the output device from marking media as soon as possible on the page or sheet.

* PauseDevice-After-Current-Copy - Stops the output device from marking media after the current copy has been stacked.

* PauseDevice-After-Current-Job - Stops the output device from marking media after the current job has been stacked.

* ResumeDevice - Continues the output device from the last Pause Device operation.

* DeactivateDevice - Puts the output device into a read-only deactivated state.

* ActivateDevice - Restores the output device to normal activity.

* PurgeDevice - Removes all traces of jobs in the output device.

* ResetDevice - Resets the hardware state of the output device and re-initializes the output device software.

* PowerOffDevice - Powers off the output device.

- e. Although not brought up at the time, there is the obvious question as to whether there should be a separate subset of operations concerned with Services. e.g., DeactivateService. Or perhaps, the “device” terms should be dropped so that the operations could apply to either devices or, if applicable, services.
- f. This set does not include Harry’s suggestions of OpPanelMessage, Off-line, LockOpPanel, DownloadCode). Although not discussed, I suggest that OFF_LINE is an indeterminate expression, the various interpretations of which are covered in the Set 3 operations. OpPanelMessage, I suggest is reasonably handled as a set variable. The remaining two appear to be potential operations:
 - * LockOpPanel - Disables input from local operator panel.
 - * DownloadCode - Instructs device (or service) to accept or acquire executable code.
- g. The understanding is that the element name may refer to a group of elements. As such, a specific GetAll operation would appear unnecessary.
- h. Harry’s RegisterRequest may be taken as a registration for notification. Ira maintained that notification is already well covered (presumably by the general alerts notification capability outgrowth of IPP) and did not need to be replicated. Ira suggested that periodic or date-time reports could be covered by referencing appropriate elements.

Bill argued that IPP notification was too general, complicated and cumbersome on one hand, and did not provide the proper mechanism for moderation and conditioning on the other. It was conceived of for a different purpose and was not suitable as the major component of Web Based Monitoring. Indeed, Bill had argued that, following the principle of not overloading operations, there should be multiple operations distinguishing alerts from periodic and timed reports. These operations were to be distinct from general notification, and were not to identify a “listener” since setting up who receives reports should be governed by policy at the managed device.

- i. Finally, no one was aware of what Harry had meant by the “async” messages

Next meeting -

Because of other commitments, there will be no phone conference on June 11. The next meeting will be on 16 June at Portland, Ore. We have asked IEEE-ISTO to provide a phone bridge during this session to allow larger participation.

The agenda of the Portland meeting will be primarily a review of the Charter, scenarios/use cases, management model and operations discussions that have been conducted during the phone conferences. The management model and the operations considerations discussed in these notes should form the bulk of the discussion. There are still questions of service-specific operations and additional operations to support proxy implementation.

Hope to have your participation in what should be the final part of the WBMM charter Phase.

Submitted by Bill Wagner, 9 June, 2003