

Southern California Joint Pole Committee
437 So. Cataract Ave. Unit 3
San Dimas, CA 91773
Phone (909) 592-4001
Fax (909) 592-4636

March 1, 2005

A conference call of the **Computer ad hoc Committee** took place on the above date, at 1:00 p.m., at the Committee office. Those who called in were:

Ms. Velma Prouty	SBC-Pac Bell
Mr. Dan Lewis	Southern California Edison
Ms. Lynn Prescott	Verizon Wireless
Ms. Sue Thomas	Sprint PCS
Mr. Joe Atalla	Hyperlink
Ms. Sarika Patel	Hyperlink
Ms. Jennie Corella	Committee Staff

Mr. Lewis opened the call by stating he would like to schedule a meeting time that is convenient for everyone. The meeting is to test iPole and determine if the functional specifications have been met. Mr. Lewis reported that the meeting would be a test of iPole with Sprint and the City of Los Angeles acting as the participants. SBC may be included as well, however, since they have an access problem, SBC would test at the JPC office. He further stated that once it has been determined that iPole has met the functional specs, then the Committee would move forward with iPam. Mr. Lewis requested Mr. Atalla convert the database prior to the iPole test to allow testing with real time data. Mr. Atalla stated that he would need one-week minimum to convert the database. He stated that he would work at the committee office after hours. Mr. Atalla stated that he had previously deleted all users, therefore, would create user ID's and passwords for the City of Los Angeles, Sprint PCS, and SBC. The members have scheduled the iPole specifications review and demonstration for March 29th. Mr. Atalla promised to have the database converted by the scheduled date. Ms. Prescott stated that she would have sufficient time to prepare for the demonstration by March 29th.

The call adjourned at 1:25 p.m

Jennie Corella – Office Manager

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May 10, 2005

A meeting of the **Computer ad hoc Committee** took place on the above date, at 10:00 a.m., at the Committee office. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Velma Prouty	SBC-Pac Bell
Mr. Ernie Solorzano	Southern California Edison
Ms. Terry Holte	Nextel Communications
Mr. Dan Lewis	Southern California Edison
Ms. Lynn Prescott	Verizon Wireless
Ms. Sue Thomas	Sprint PCS
Mr. Joe Atalla	Hyperlink
Ms. Sarika Patel	Hyperlink
Ms. Paula Haney	Verizon California
Mr. Bill Jennings	Southern California Water
Ms. Denise Schweibinz	Southern California Water
Mr. Mahendra Garg	City of Anaheim
Ms. Sherri Ashford	Verizon California
Mr. Don Beckermann	MCI Communications
Mr. Joerg Rottenbacher	SBC – Pac Bell
Ms. Rose Bates	SBC – Pac Bell
Mr. Viset Ong	City of Riverside
Mr. Timothy Bass	City of Vernon
Mr. George Lee	Verizon California
Mr. Bob Yethers	Southern California Edison
Mr. Jeff Rapini	City of Anaheim
Mr. Donald Cook	Verizon California
Mr. Tony Mai	City of Glendale
Ms. Jennie Corella	Committee Staff

Mr. Lewis opened the meeting by allowing for introductions. He then informed the attendees that the purpose of the meeting is to view the current version and status of iPAM. He welcomed the IT personnel from the Committee member's staff. He stressed to the IT attendees to view the current version of iPAM, and comment if they detect a possible conflict with the software and their current systems. He further stated that the concern should not focus on the software from the front line

user perspective, and the screens, because these issues will be addressed at later meetings.

Mr. Atalla then proceeded with the presentation. He opened by stating that the current platform (.NET) was proposed due to the problems he faced with iPOLE. Many of the utilities were unable to open the necessary ports to allow traffic up or down due to their respective firewalls. Therefore, the Microsoft.Net technology was the resolution to addressing this problem. He then explained why the application should not be web based. The JPA process is complex, and would require users moving between many screens, which would make the application not user-friendly. When printed, the final JPA would not print and appear as it does in the current process. In looking ahead, Mr. Atalla stated that the billing process is also complex and would require a multitude of navigation between screens by the front-line users. Another argument against a web-based program is the issue of web-browsers. It is almost certain that users would utilize different web-browsers. If Explorer or NetScape releases a revised version, than the application would require programming revisions in order to allow users access to the application. Mr. Atalla stated that many applications have been designed to coincide with Microsoft Explorer Version 3, and since Microsoft has released a revised version 4, the applications are now useless. If iPAM required programming revisions, the result would be additional programming costs to the Committee. Mr. Atalla stated in order to avoid future revisions to adapt to web browser revisions; the .NET platform is the best method. The iPAM application will sit on desktops, but the pole database records would be shared via the SQL server. Therefore, if you are able to access the web using the web service, you will be able to access the pole data via web service.

When Hyperlink releases upgrades, the users will be prompted to download the revision after logging on. Mr. Atalla solicited questions and concerns from the IT personnel present. Much dialogue was exchanged between Mr. Atalla and the IT personnel. Mr. Atalla was questioned when the members could expect to receive a copy of iPAM. Mr. Atalla responded that until the ad hoc computer committee members agree that the software is ready for release, then, he would distribute copies to the Committee members. In his opinion, at this point he feels he must maintain good control in the distribution of the application.

He stated that the client platform is XP, which works well with the .NET platform. The question of the users was raised. Mr. Atalla responded that up to 300 users could access the database at the same time. Mr. Solorzano stated that the implementation of iPAM within his organization would be a slow method process. His organization handles 90% of all JPAs processed. The process would require his organization to

process JPAs utilizing both manual, and electronic methods. He remarked that his organization does not have the resources to handle the implementation any other way. Mr. Atalla stated that he would work with the organizations to create a manageable implementation.

Mr. Atalla proceeded to visually display iPAM screens. Mr. Atalla navigated the software displaying the pole and JPA screens. He also displayed several transactions.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am, after Mr. Atalla completed his responses to those members in attendance.

Jennie Corella – Office Manager

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June 30, 2005

A meeting of the **Computer ad hoc Committee** took place on the above date, at 10:00 a.m., at the Committee office. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Velma Prouty	SBC-Pac Bell
Ms. Terry Holte	Nextel Communications
Mr. Dan Lewis	Southern California Edison
Ms. Lynn Prescott	Verizon Wireless
Ms. Sue Thomas	Sprint PCS
Mr. Joe Atalla	Hyperlink
Ms. Sarika Patel	Hyperlink
Ms. Paula Haney	Verizon California
Mr. Robert Allen	City of Los Angeles (DWP)
Mr. Philip Pate	City of Los Angeles (DWP)
Mr. Don Beckermann	MCI Communications
Ms. Lupe Hernandez	Cingular Wireless
Mr. Tibor Laky	Sprint L.P.
Mr. Manuel Zamora	Sprint L.P.
Mr. Serge Handschin	City of Glendale
Ms. Jennie Corella	Committee Staff

Mr. Lewis opened the meeting by inquiring about the estimate for the server upgrade, submitted by Hyperlink. Mr. Atalla responded that the current Novell server is outdated. It is operating on a Novell 3.0 version platform with custom software application, which, he stated is also outdated. If this platform had to be replaced, it would be difficult to acquire this version. Mr. Atalla is proposing to move all data from the Novell server, to an HP, SQL server sitting at the JPC office. He further explained that the current system is hard-coated and utilizes many drives. The members inquired if the current HP server is sufficient to operate as the current Novell server operates. Mr. Atalla responded that in his opinion the current server would suffice for at least one to two years. The objective is to have iPAM up and running within that time frame, and purchase a new server at that time. He further stated that if the Committee would prefer purchasing the new server at this time, he would procure a server for the Committee. However, he reiterated that in

his opinion, there is no need to move forward with the purchase at this time. The members discussed the issue of purchasing a new server at this time, or utilizing the existing server. The primary concern is the cost of labor to transfer the data into the existing server, and incurring additional costs when the new server is purchased to accommodate the iPAM application. The final consensus is to have Mr. Atalla provide a quote for the purchase of a server. Mr. Lewis stated that the expense of purchasing hardware is not in the 2005 operating budget. Therefore, the cost of the server would be assessed equally among the 29 members. Mr. Atalla stated that he would provide the Committee with a quote on the purchase of a server.

Next addressed is iPAM. Mr. Atalla distributed CD's of the beta version 1 of the iPAM application to the attending members. All other members would have a copy sent to them via USPS. The objective is to have the members test the beta copy until July 28, 2005. Any comments or concerns are to be sent via e-mail to Ms. Corella. She then would forward the comments to Mr. Atalla for resolution. Mr. Atalla will set up users Ids and passwords using the member's code. The committee has scheduled a meeting for July 28, 2005 at 9:00 am to discuss the submitted questions, issues and concerns.

The members then discussed the issue of backup of the current server. Currently, the server is being backed up once a week. It was recommended to utilize two external drives, alternate them, and back up on a weekly basis.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am, until July 28, 2005.

Jennie Corella – Office Manager

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August 30, 2005

A meeting of the **Computer ad hoc Committee** took place on the above date, at 9:00 a.m., at the Committee office. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Velma Prouty	SBC-Pac Bell
Mr. Dan Lewis	Southern California Edison
Ms. Lynn Prescott	Verizon Wireless
Ms. Sue Thomas	Sprint PCS
Ms. Lupe Hernandez	Cingular Wireless
Mr. Joe Atalla	Hyperlink
Ms. Sarika Patel	Hyperlink
Ms. Paula Haney	Verizon California
Mr. Thomas Dailey	City of Los Angeles (DWP)
Ms. Jennie Corella	Committee Staff

Mr. Lewis opened the meeting by stating that the members would like the issues documented (attachment) by Ms. Sue Thomas to be addressed. The first issue is that Ms. Thomas was not able to access all pole records. Mr. Atalla responded that not all the pole records have been imported to the iPAM database. Mr. Atalla remarked that importing the entire database would require three to four days of downtime. This task would require several weekends of transferring the data, and only approximately 300,000 records at a time could be transferred. Ms. Prouty stated if the members could receive a list of the poles transferred. This would allow the members to use the poles on the list when working on testing the JPAs. Mr. Atalla suggested another method in transferring the data. He stated that he would import the pole records onto a server then import the data from the afore-mentioned server to iPAM. This would allow the members to use a database with actual pole records. Prior to going live with iPAM this process of importing the data shall be repeated. It appears this step should resolve this issue.

The second issue is the Help buttons on the software, which appear not to function at this time. Mr. Atalla responded that it is correct that the Help buttons are not activated at this time. He stated that until the program is free of bugs, and the process is running smoothly, then he would activate the Help buttons. He further stated

that if the buttons were created now, they would be constantly revised, as the program requires revisions. Ms. Thomas responded that the users would need either the Help buttons, or hands on training. Mr. Lewis added that he disagreed with Mr. Atalla in waiting to activate the Help buttons. If the users had the Help buttons activated to correlate with the current version of iPAM, then they could resolve and answer their issues instead of creating issues list. They could have their questions answered. Mr. Atalla responded that he would have the Help buttons activated by Thursday, September 15th.

Hyperlink has corrected the third issue, which states "Location not showing up when pole is added to JPA". However, after discussion it was discovered that there is a misunderstanding with this issue. Mr. Atalla clarified the issue and will make the necessary revisions.

The fourth issue is the inability to add section codes to JPA. The members discussed this issue extensively to clarify for Mr. Atalla why this is a necessary fix.

Issue number five states that the drop down menus for all the codes is incomplete and/or incorrect. Mr. Atalla stated that he is aware that the lists are incomplete. He will address this issue later.

Number six is the inability to access some member codes. Mr. Atalla stated that all member codes are set up in the system.

In response to number seven, Mr. Atalla stated that when a JPA is submitted, all members on the JPA would receive an email message. However, when sending a notification, the member may be selected.

Number eight stated that the grade and space does not appear in the column in its entirety. Mr. Atalla responded that the column requires enlargement, to which he would correct.

The inability to close the pole screen was next on the list. Ms. Thomas stated that after clicking the close button, the pole screen would pop up again. Mr. Atalla could not ascertain why this error occurred. This type of situation is one he would have to witness first hand. The members agreed that the next time this occurs they would document the process steps, and email Ms. Corella with the specifics. Ms. Corella would forward the information to Mr. Atalla.

Next issue on the list was the freezing of the screen. When Ms. Thomas attempted to add a pole to a JPA in Draft status, the screen froze on three occasions. Mr. Atalla stated that he could not explain this situation. He suggested that when this occurs that they note the pole number to allow Mr. Atalla to better investigate the problem by duplicating the situation.

The last issue is with the email notifications. Ms. Thomas reported receiving 20 email notifications for two JPAs. Mr. Atalla would address this issue as well.

Mr. Atalla agreed to have the data imported to iPAM, and the "Help" buttons functioning by September 15, 2005.

The members then questioned the issue of user training. Mr. Atalla stated that he has conducted several training sessions in the past. However, he is aware that since the users are not continually using the program, the users now require a refresher. Mr. Atalla suggested that he visit the member offices respectively, and train the users (limit five trainees). The cost for this service is \$500.00 a day. The members discussed how they would arrange the training, so that it would benefit all members.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Jennie Corella – Office Manager

ATTACHMENT

Jennie,

I have spent considerable time testing the Ipam program that was handed out at the last meeting and have found numerous issues. I have listed the issues below.

1. Cannot pull many pole records from JPC file (These poles ARE definitely joint poles)
2. HELP buttons do not work in any of the screens so some of the issues may just be training items.
3. Location not showing up when pole is added to JPA
4. Cannot not seem to add Section code (nature of work) to JPA. Training? Were we not going to make this a pull down menu?
5. Pull down menus for treatment codes, height codes, member codes, are incorrect and incomplete.
6. Many of the member codes do not allow access (ATC, ATS, etc.)
7. When JPA is submitted, is the notification via e-mail to all parties automatic?
8. When adding proposed grade and space...need to space over at least once or grade does not show up on screen or printed copy.
9. Pole screen sometimes will not close when you hit the close button (keeps popping back up)
10. When attempting to update Draft JPA with new pole, program "froze" 3 separate times and would not allow any work.
11. Two JPAs that were in the "Submitted" status reached the automatic approval cut off date yesterday, July 20. As a party to those JPAs, I was notified of the 18.1 automatic approval, but received twenty (20) notification e-mails for two JPAs!!! Enough already!

These are just some of the problems that I encountered while trying to test. I found other minor issues (listed below) that are strictly cosmetic type fixes.

1. Status Codes (in Reports) shows "Active" or "ANactive"
2. All Search buttons are spelled "Seacrh"
3. Need to delete all incorrect and test members from Member lists (reports)

I feel that we need to sit with Joe for some training and then continue our testing. I am curious to know if other testing found the same issues.

Sue Thomas
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Cable Engineering Services
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November 15, 2005

A meeting of the **Computer ad hoc Committee** took place on the above date, at 1:00 p.m., at the Committee office. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Velma Prouty	SBC-Pac Bell
Mr. Dan Lewis	SCE - (via teleconference)
Mr. Tony Gant	Southern Calif. Edison
Mr. Larry Chow	Southern Calif. Edison
Mr. Robert Allen	City of LA (via teleconference)
Ms. Sue Thomas	Sprint PCS (via teleconference)
Ms. Lupe Hernandez	Cingular Wireless
Ms. Terry Holte	Nextel Communications
Ms. Paula Haney	Verizon California
Mr. Thomas Dailey	City of Los Angeles (DWP)
Ms. Jean Baccus	Committee Staff
Ms. Angela Pranata	Committee Staff
Guest: Mr. Joe Atalla	Hyperlink

Mr. Lewis opened the meeting by stating that IPAM CDs had been distributed to the members to use and report any bugs to Mr. Atalla. He then introduced his replacement, Mr. Larry Chow, to the members. He stated that Mr. Tony Gant would act as the trainer on iPAM, and Mr. Larry Chow would be the chairperson for the Computer ad hoc committee. He announced that Ms. Angela Pranata, of the JPC committee staff, would be acting as project manager for iPAM. Mr. Lewis then inquired of Mr. Atalla, what from his viewpoint is the next step for the members. Mr. Atalla responded that he would like to aid those members that will be involved in the beta testing of the latest version of the iPAM software. He would be visiting their respective sites to install the software to ensure that there are no issues with connecting to the Internet. Mr. Atalla reported that the database conversion is complete, however; there are a great many records that are encrypted. As a solution to this problem, Mr. Atalla stated that those records that correctly imported have been tagged. Those records incorrect are not tagged, and when utilizing iPAM, the user retrieves an untagged record,

the user would receive a message. The message states that the record requires research. Mr. Lewis inquired an estimate of correct/incorrect records. Mr. Atalla responded that approximately, 1,000,000 records are correct, and 700,000 are incorrect. He further stated that the greatest problem with the records is the anchors. Mr. Lewis inquired that once a record is identified as incorrect, how would the record be corrected. Mr. Atalla responded that this is a decision for the committee. However, since he is aware of the third party control responsibility of the JPC office, he suggests that only the JPC office have the rights to correct records. Therefore, members would contact the JPC office, and the JPC staff would then correct the record. Once corrected, the record would no longer generate the aforementioned message.

Mr. Lewis inquired if the “help” buttons on the iPAM screens are completed. Mr. Atalla responded that all “help” buttons on every individual screen are active.

The members discussed the problem with the current Novell server, and the need of replacing it. Mr. Atalla has submitted two estimates for the replacement of the server. The estimates will be on the consent calendar of the next Administrative Board meeting.

Mr. Lewis stated that the committee would need to decide which members would be involved in the beta testing of iPAM. Mr. Atalla agreed that this would give greater control of the testing issues. Mr. Atalla stated that he would visit the sites of those members involved in the testing. He would assist them by aiding them in installing iPAM on a minimum of three PCs, and walk the trainer through the initial JPA process not to exceed two hours.

The members that have volunteered for the testing are: Cingular (LAC-BMS), Sprint (SPR-CES), City of Los Angeles, and SBC. Ms. Pranata will coordinate the dates, and time between the participating members and Hyperlink.

The members agreed that approving the replacement of the current Novell server is a priority issue, and should be addressed as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Jean Baccus – Assistant Office Manager