STIWG OpenDCS Standardization Working Group Charter

Background

A multi-agency OpenDCS Standardization Sub-Committee (OpenDCS Sub-Committee) has been established to unify the OpenDCS variants and maintain a standard package of the OpenDCS software to be supported by the STIWG member agencies referred to as the STIWG OpenDCS. Several diverging variants of the OpenDCS software (includes LRGS, DECODES, computation engines, etc.) have been made available by different vendors and are in use by the DCS community at large.

Occasionally, new capabilities require changes to the software but not occurring in all variants. This results in each agency expending resources to develop similar or matching capabilities across different code-bases.

This OpenDCS Sub-Committee has been established to:
1. Identify the foundational code-base for the Gold Standard version,
2. Develop a plan of action to incorporate capabilities found in the other variants to capture the full feature set of the existing OpenDCS offerings
3. Develop a statement of work to be executed to develop the unified platform.

The sub-committee will work closely with the STIWG member agencies, the user community and other entities, as necessary, to:
1. Review OpenDCS enhancement proposals and
2. Determine a plan of action for implementation

The OpenDCS Sub-Committee is not necessarily obligated to perform the work. Rather, they are to provide viable Statements of Work (SOW's) defining the purpose, scope, expected results and acceptance criteria upon which the implementation can be executed.

The STIWG version will be certified by the STIWG and freely available for download and use by any user at no cost. The software will not contain any proprietary capabilities whatsoever.

The STIWG OpenDCS source code will be open and freely available to STIWG in a code sharing repository enabling contributions by members and contracted developers.

Membership

The OpenDCS Sub-Committee will consist of active subject matter experts; membership based on specialized knowledge of OpenDCS its use in order to develop the statements of work. Preferably, each agency will have a representative on the OpenDCS Sub-Committee; however, this is not a requirement.

The OpenDCS Sub-Committee will report to the STIWG Chair and Vice-Chair on a regular basis (at least quarterly) and more often if requested by the STIWG Chair and/or Vice-Chair.

Scope of the OpenDCS Sub-Committee's Work

1. The OpenDCS Sub-Committee will:
   a. Collaborate with the user community, contractors and other entities as appropriate
   b. Develop scopes of work that provide sufficient detail of stated requirements necessitating OpenDCS modification and enhancement, and
   c. Provide necessary written feedback pertaining to the deliverables.
2. Provide the STIWG with OpenDCS implementation recommendations from the OpenDCS Sub-Committee

Deliverables

SOW's that incorporate the OpenDCS Sub-Committee's recommendations defining project activities, deliverables, timelines, etc. for OpenDCS implementation.

The SOW also includes the scope of work, purpose, agency/person performing the work, period of performance, deliverable schedule, standards, acceptance criteria, special requirements, type of contract and other miscellaneous items as they pertain to each project.

The OpenDCS Sub-Committee will also request and consider input from the STIWG as it pertains to the implementation of OpenDCS enhancements and modifications.