SPI LTUF Newsletter

HOUSTON SMARTPLANT INSTRUMENTATION
LOCAL TECHNICAL USER FORUM

~ Next Houston SPI LTUF August 5, 2015 meeting ~

The next Houston SPI LTUF meeting will be held on August 5, 2015 at Fluor Engineering, One Fluor Daniel Dr., Sugar Land, Texas - from 8:00 a.m. until noon. This will be the first meeting following the Global TUF meeting in Las Vegas and the Hexagon international user conference HxGN LIVE. We plan to present a lot of information from the events and activities at the convention. This meeting will be just prior to the official release of SPI Version 2016 in September, so we hope to have some very good information on the new functions and capabilities of the software. Invitations and the preliminary agenda will go out next week, so start making your plans now. If you wish to give a presentation or open a topic at this meeting, please contact John Dressel at - john.dressel@fluor.com

~ Intergraph PP&M Technical User Forum May 30, 2015 ~

The global Technical User Forum (TUF) meetings were held on Sunday, 31 May. The combined SmartPlant Instrumentation, Electrical & P&ID TUF meeting in the morning introduced the chairman of the respective PP&M products - John Dressel for SPI , Earl Trindle for SPEL, Adam Williams standing in for Fernando Murcia for SP-P&ID. Frank Joop gave an Overview of the Engineering & Schematic plans and strategic direction. Each SmartPlant product owner introduced new or additional functionality for SmartPlant Instrumentation, SmartPlant Electrical and SmartPlant Instrumentation. Sessions followed on the Master Tag Registry, SmartPlant Construction, the new SmartPlant Navigator, SmartPlant Foundation and SmartPlant Materials. The morning session was wrapped up with a presentation on the SmartPlant CR Ranking website. Agendas and all presentations are available on the Intergraph PP&M @ HxGN LIVE 2015 Engineering & Schematic Global Technical User Forum website - http://www.spi-ltuf.org/GTUF15/

The SmartPlant Instrumentation afternoon breakout session started with a roadmap presentation for new and future releases of SPI by Zur Bar. Presentations on the SPI DDP module, database validation tools and vendor interfaces followed. All of the presentations are available on the SmartPlant Instrumentation Global Technical User Forum at HxGN 2015 Forum webpage - http://www.spi-ltuf.org/GTUF15/SPI/

~ INTERGRAPH PP&M @ HxGN LIVE June 1- 4, 2015 ~

Hexagon international users' conference HxGN LIVE was held at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas with over 3500 people and 60 sponsors from more than 70 countries in attendance. Highlights of the Intergraph PP&M events at the conference were the rollout of new or enhanced versions of the SmartPlant Enterprise software. There were also some informative key note presentations and videos such as this one on "Enhancing the Engineering Supply Chain". Presentations, Photos and Videos from the conference can be seen at: http://hxgnlive.com/en/las2015

~ Intergraph PP&M USA User Conference ~

Start planning now to attend the Intergraph USA User Conference in Houston on September 30, 2015. This conference is a great opportunity for members of the Houston SmartPlant Instrumentation Local Technical Users Forum to have a face to face dialogue with the Intergraph developers and tool owners while experiencing industry presentations, product updates, networking and hands on Technical Expo. Registration will open in late July. For more information, contact Alexis Garcia at alexis.garcia@intergraph.com.

~ SmartPlant Instrumentation 2016 Release ~

With the eminent release of Version 2016 (previously called Version 2015) scheduled for September of 2015, it is a good time to review some of the new features and functionality coming in the pending release. The existing browser module will be replaced by a new query builder and data editor. The new version will also have much improved As Built functionality and To Do list capabilities.

The new **Query Builder (QB)**, enables users to create Queries without SQL knowledge and allows them to create instantly common query from SPI, with minimal SPI data model knowledge. It is simple to use and provides engineering and design context. In addition, the templates will also support searches across the SPI application, integration with other SmartPlant applications. There will be no need for Infomaker in order to create new queries.

The **Engineering Data Editor (EDE)** provides users with a complete view of all the engineering data and allows you to browse through and modify it from a single location in the application. The application includes a number of predefined EDE views categorized by data type. Each of the predefined EDE views is associated with a particular SmartPlant Instrumentation module, but it is now possible to present data from several different modules in a single EDE view. In addition to the predefined EDE views, users can create custom EDE views. EDE Views provide the option to sort, filter, group, and search through the SPI data to see the specific data necessary for what you need. Users can perform additional actions to modify the way the data is presented in the EDE View. This includes adding more attributes to the EDE View, printing reports, and direct access to the Query Builder functionality.

The new **Project As Built** functionality will Improve the visibility and the management of the Items that are copied to or from a Project. It will also Harmonize the processes of Claim Merge and Project Export (backup of the engineering project). All of the As Built functionality will be from within SPI and will remove the constraint of multi user operations when data is merged.

SPI V2016 will have a new **UDF / UDT Editor** that allows user to customize User Defined Fields into select lists that can be used in the EDE as pick lists. This will introduce a new level of data consystancy that has been lacking in previous versions of SPI. The Spec UDF fields will still be maintained and defined by the Spec Data Dictionary.

An important **Cable Management** capability will be added to SPI Version 2016. The ability to Publish and Retrieve Instrument Cables via SmartPlant Foundation to and from Smart 3D will give SPI users the capability to manage and maintain their cables without relying on SmartPlant Electrical for cable management.

Enhancements for **SPI Vendor Interfaces** include an overhaul of the Fisher Control Valve interface and a new Application Programming Interface (API) for retrieving Vendor Data.

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~ SmartPlant Engineering Integrity for Instrumentation ~

There was a lot of attention directed at SmartPlant Instrumentation Data Validation software this year at HxGN. We had presentations from Mangan on SPInspector, CAXperts on UniversalReporter and PAS Integrity but one program surprised us with its added capabilities. Intergraph's SmartPlant Engineering Integrity (originally designed for P&ID validation) now supports SmartPlant Instrumentation and SmartPlant Electrical. The rule based validation has several rules built in that checks for missing or inconsistent data and you can add your own rules as needed. It has a new dashboard that graphically shows the extent of the inconsistencies and it can even create cause and effect diagrams. Clicking on a reported error the software will open the drawing or document and focus on the tag causing the problem. Click Here for additional information on SmartPlant Engineering Integrity.

~ Post your Change Requests to the CR Ranking Website ~

Don't forget to submit your outstanding Change Requests to the TECHNICAL USER FORUM Change Request Ranking Website http://www.sptuf.com/. Please visit the site periodically to rank the Change Request to have your preferences included in the ranking. Remember, your participation in the CR Ranking is the best way to get your needs known to Intergraph. The Technical User Forum Change Request Ranking Website has undergone some significant changes including separate ranking sites for SmartPlant Instrumentation, SmartPlant Electrical, SmartPlant 3D, SmartPlant Materials, SmartPlant P&ID and SmartPlant Foundation. One of the most significant changes is the ability to enter "Wish List" items into the ranking system.

Regards,
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