AASHTOWare Bridge Design-Rating (BrDR) Task Force Summary Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2015
Albany, NY

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Date: Thursday, August 6, 2015

Participants:

AASHTO	Judy Skeen	AASHTO	Project Manager
SCOJD	Bruce Johnson	Oregon DOT	SCOJD Liaison
BrDR Task Force	Todd Thompson	South Dakota, DOT	Chair
	Joshua Dietsche	Wisconsin DOT	Bridge Rating (BrR)
	Jeff Olsen	Montana DOT	Bridge Design (BrD)
	Dean Teal	Kansas DOT	Bridge Design (BrD)
	Amjad Waheed	Ohio DOT	Bridge Rating (BrR)
	Tom Saad	FHWA	FHWA Liaison
BrM Task Force	Beckie Curtis	Michigan DOT	Bridge Management
BrDR Contractor	Jim Duray	Baker	BrDR Contractor
	Herman Lee	Baker	BrDR Contractor
	Krisha Kennelly	Baker	BrDR Contractor
	Geoffrey Trees	Baker	BrDR Contractor
Third Party Contractors	Ron Love	Bentley Systems	
	William (Bill) Beyer	Bentley Systems	
	Brian Goodrich	BridgeTech	

Notes Taker: Amjad Waheed / Judy Skeen

Agenda Item 0: Review Agenda/Assign Minutes Recorder

Judy Skeen opened the meeting at 8:00 AM. Amjad Waheed was assigned as the meeting minute recorder.

The agenda was reviewed. The following items were added to the agenda:
- #10 - Review of Action Items
- #11 – Executive Session (as needed)

Agenda Item 1: Third-Party Development

Judy Skeen opened the discussion by providing an overview of the status of the modernization project, the current status of the Solicitation Proposal Document, Project Work Plan, Architecture Design Document, and FHWA approval letter for SP&R funding (with no state match). Judy advised that the solicitation is expected to be finalized and forwarded to member agencies in early September.

Baker provided the third party contractors with a high level overview of the expected impact of the modernization effort on the interaction with third party products.
- Third party developers will continue to be able to connect third party engines.

- Third party contractors will be able to access BrDR via an API. The .COM API will be replaced with .NET. The API functionality will be very similar to what they are working with now and will be more object-oriented.
- Changes to the BrDR database will be minimal.
- One of the first tasks in the project will be the development of the domain (estimated to be within the first six months). Once the domain is complete, Baker will make it available to the third party contractors.
- Information on how third party engines can be connected to the modernized BrDR will be provided to the contractors as soon as it becomes available.
- Third party software may have the ability to directly access the system (i.e. the possibility to have a tool bar access to launch processes to interact with BrDR).

The modernization project development effort is anticipated to begin in April 2016. The first release of the modernized product is scheduled for June 2018 and will not affect third party developers since the focus on the first modernized release is the re-development of the AASHTO engine. The first release affecting the third party developers is scheduled for June 2019.

Agenda Item 2: Prior Business
2a.   Review January Meeting Minutes
Minutes from the June 16 - 18, 2015 Task Force Meeting in Boise, ID were reviewed and approved with the following change:
- Page 29, remove the repeated rows at the end of Attachment A.

2b.   Review Action Items
Jeff reviewed the Action Items and the provided updates to the Task Force.

Agenda Item 3: User Group
3a.   Discussion
The RADBUG meeting went well. The user presentations geared towards the use of BrDR were well received. The Task Force discussed the possibility of recommending to the RADBUG officers that they consider assigning 'ambassadors' to new users to help acquaint them to the RADBUG organization. Attendee feedback from the RADBUG meeting was good.

Baker, Todd Thompson and Bruce Johnson sat in on the Non-Member discussion session. Several consultant users expressed that they do not know who to contact within their respective DOT for BrDR support. The discussion also revealed that some of the special consultant option licensees may not understand that the special consultant option allows the licensee to use the software only on bridges in the sponsoring agency's inventory. One consultant, in particular, indicated that they are using their special consultant option software on bridges for states other than their sponsor.

Going forward, Baker will provide consultants licensing the Special Consultant Option with the name and contact information within the sponsoring organization as a component of the email forwarded to them with software activation information.

Future BrDR Production Releases
Given the fact that new versions of BrDR are generally delivered in the month preceding the annual RADBUG meeting, coincident with the annual AASHTOWare licensing window; in future years, Baker will send the latest version of BrDR software to all Members and Associate Members, who licensed the software in the previous year, regardless of whether or not the Member/Associate Member has submitted their annual software commitment form to AASHTO. Baker will continue to provide the new BrDR

software lease to licensing consultants only after being advised by AASHTO to do so.

Future BrDR RADBUG Releases
Given the fact that many BrDR licensees license only one or a limited number of licenses, Baker will continue to develop a RADBUG conference version of the latest release of BrDR (to expire on the day following the RADBUG meeting dates) and making it downloadable for RADBUG participants to load and use during the RADBUG meeting. This will allow licensees to continue to use their paid license for production work during the week of the RADBUG.

3b.   Survey
The Task Force reviewed the results of both the member and non-member surveys. Judy downloaded the raw survey data and queried the IP addresses to secure organization location information for the respondents. The spreadsheet of raw data was forwarded to the Task Force.

Among other things, users expressed the need to have the tutorials updated to support the current version of the software. The overall theme of the comments documented in the survey responses indicates the need for more education to better convey the software features.

Six (6) survey respondents specifically asked to be contacted by the Task Force.

Agenda Item 4: 6.7.1 Update
4a.   CalTrans Enhancements
Baker reviewed the CalTrans enhancement estimates. Baker completed the last two enhancement estimates requested by CalTrans and forwarded to them two weeks ago.

The 6.7.1 release will include the CalTrans requested enhancements as well as updated dlls to address Oracle migration script issues (Issues

672, 675, 676, and 677). Release 6.7.1 will not be forwarded to the Beta TAG for testing prior to release. Version 6.7.1 will be made available to all licensees.

Agenda Item 5: 6.8 Update
Baker is currently working on the diaphragm rating task and The Prestressed design tool. Alpha testing for The Prestressed design tool is approximately two weeks behind schedule.

Agenda Item 6: Regression Tool RIPI Update
Judy advised that the Regression Comparison Tool RIPI request and associated 6.8 Project Contract Modification 1 (to incorporate the Regression Tool development into the 6.8 project) is currently posted for AASHTO project manager peer review. Following peer review, early next week, SCOJD will be balloted for approval of the RIPI funding and 6.8 contract modification to support the Regression Comparison Tool development and delivery efforts.

Agenda Item 7: Modernization Update

Component	Status	Responsible
Modernization Solicitation Cover Letter	Pending	Judy Skeen
FHWA SPR Funds Approval Letter	Complete	Judy Skeen
Modernization Solicitation Project Proposal	In Progress	Baker
Modernization Solicitation Commitment Form	Complete	Baker
Architectural Design Document	Complete	Baker
Modernization Project Work Plan	In Progress	Baker

Baker is currently working to complete the Modernization Work Plan. Task Force comments need to be incorporated and measurable results based on experiments conducted and ROI estimates need to be added to the document.

Agenda Item 8: Enhancements

8a.   Additional 6.8 Maintenance estimates (2015-BrDR-062)

Funds remain available in the maintenance budget to support additional enhancements deemed a priority by the Task Force. Baker provided estimates for the following enhancements for Task Force consideration.

- JIRA 318 Model Shear Reinforcement in Slab System
- VI 12608 Culvert – Limit State Selection
- VI 10933 LL Scale Factor Enhancement
- VI 10332 Set Design Tool Design Vehicles

The Task Force approved moving forward with VI 12608 and VI 10332.

8b.   Diaphragm and Lateral Bracing spec checking TAG requested enhancements

Baker presented an overview of the actions to be performed and the associated estimate for the diaphragm spec checking recommended by the TAG & requested by the TF in June 2015. The proposed enhancement will add the capability spec checking of diaphragms for Line Girder, 3D FEM and 3D FEM-Vehicle Path analysis types.

The Task Force approved moving forward with this enhancement.

Amjad requested the contractor to look into performing grillage analysis of the curved beams to speed up the curved beam analysis.

Baker requested an Email from the AASHTO PM authorizing to proceed working on the items before the contract modification is signed.

Agenda Item 9: Marketing

Amjad has been spreading the word on the availability of BrDR for university classroom use. Judy has followed up on several requests from universities contacted by Amjad to provide them with information on how to officially request the software.

The Task Force discussed the possibility of allowing researchers to obtain the full version of the BrDR software free of charge to be used when performing work for DOTs who license the unlimited BrDR software for agency-sponsored research. This will be further discussed in the next TF meeting.

Agenda Item 10: Review of Action Items

Judy Skeen read the action items recorded during the meeting for the information of the attendees.

Agenda Item 11: Executive Session (as needed)

No Executive Session was held.
The meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.