

# Discussions with Aspentech and other suppliers

Fundamental issues

# Brief History

- **March 2000: AspenTech voted «no» on Master Plan**
  - ⇒ because of the unknown fee structure
- **8 Nov. 2000: AspenTech announced that they would not join CO-LaN**
  - ⇒ CO-LaN proposed to negotiate
- **31 Jan. 2001: CO-LaN constitution without AspenTech**
  - ⇒ no more contacts on the subject
- **20 July 2001: AspenTech announced CAPE-S™ to GCO MGT committee, conference call on August 13, 2001**
- **Sep. 20, 2001: CAPE-S™- CO-LaN negotiation meeting**
- **Oct. 4, 2001: proposed change of bylaws sent to CO-LaN members and to participants of September meeting**
  - ⇒ since then no news from AspenTech

# Why did AspenTech not join CO-LaN

- Flexibility to make choices
- Reservations about certification
- Organizational reservations
- Opportunity cost
- Direct cost

# CO-LaN replies/proposals

- A CO-LaN member decides by itself which standard to implement in which product; and which labels to ask for which product.
- Testing process based on first screening with single testers and interoperability tests prioritized by users; periodical interoperability testing sessions.
- CO-LaN SIGs will be operated essentially following CAPE-S™ proposal; if this works we keep it.
- Reduced/waived fees for vendors and academics who either provide testing software and resources for using it, or bring new users in CO-LaN.
- Proposed change of decision process in CO-LaN BOD: non-voting academic members.

# Proposed changes in bylaws

- **"Software labelling" replaced by "software testing"**  
This testing will focus on interoperability, CO-LaN will be communicating the results of successful interoperability testing.
- **Allow the CO-LaN to value member contributions of time and proprietary software in consideration of paid dues.**
- **Fees for testing will be adjustable (by the Board of Directors) based on member's contributions.**
- **The Board of Directors members from Group C (individuals, research institutes, universities, etc.) are non-voting.**
- **A more formal method for chartering SIGs is included.**

# Charter for SIGs (5 slides)

- ... The objective of a SIG is to deliver practical and effective standards for interfaces as quickly and efficiently as possible. At any time, only SIGs which CO-LaN members can bring to bear sufficient appropriate resources to achieve rapid progress will be active. The work product of a SIG becomes a CO standard if the CO-LaN BOD ratifies it by their normal voting procedures...
- ... The CO-LaN BOD will insure that the scope, time line, resource requirement, deliverables, etc. are clearly defined. In addition, the BOD will define the membership of the SIG so as to ensure appropriate participation and an effective working group of participants...

# SIG membership

- A SIG is composed of the appropriate representatives of CO-LaN members... As required and agreed upon by both the members of a given SIG and the CO-LaN BOD, a SIG can involve participants who are not representatives of CO-LaN members to insure successful and timely accomplishment of the SIG charter. At the discretion of the SIG, members may be included in "passive" roles (e.g. reviewers).
- A CO-LaN member may ask to be a member of any SIG. A CO-LaN member is not obliged to be a member of any SIG. As agreed upon by the members of a given SIG and the BOD, only those who will be active and effective members may join that SIG...

# SIG Project Managers

- **Each SIG is led by a SIG Project Manager. Within the elements of the charter of their SIG, SIG Project Managers are responsible for:**
  - ⇒ **Successful completion of the charter of the SIG (standard development or standard revision)**
  - ⇒ **Ensuring appropriate SIG participants' contribution**
  - ⇒ **Completion of the SIG charter in the agreed upon time frame.**
  - ⇒ **Ensuring quality and accuracy of the documentation developed**
  - ⇒ **Maintaining regular communication with the CO-LaN BOD to advise of project progress, delays, required scope changes, etc.**



# SIG termination

- **SIGs will be chartered by the BOD for specific tasks. Typically such a charter will include a termination clause, such that the SIG will cease to exist once its charter has been fulfilled.**
- **Alternatively, the BOD may chose to terminate a SIG if the SIG is no longer capable of accomplishing its goals, has ceased to function effectively, is no longer relevant to the needs of CO-LaN members, etc.**
- **At the discretion of the BOD, "standing" SIGs may be created to conduct ongoing tasks. It must be clear in a SIG's charter whether it is to be limited term or ongoing. The establishment of a "standing" SIG does not prevent the BOD from terminating any SIG for the reasons stated above.**

# Communication to CO-LaN members

- The BOD will regularly, and at least annually, communicate to the CO-LaN members on current SIG activities, such as the number of SIGs, their charters, their membership, their progress to date, etc. This information will also be available to CO-LaN members at any time, upon request.