

NLS/Augment Project

Philip Gust

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Project Team

Active:

- Jonathan Cheyer
- Philip Gust
- Ken Harrenstein (PDP-10/TOPS-20 emulation)
- Raylene Pak (NLS system/content expertise)
- Shinya Yamada (NLS content expertise)
- Peter Yim

Advisory:

- Doug Engelbart
- Jake Feinler
- Kathe Gust
- Henry Lowood

February Accomplishments

- Completed “active” team, and added several “advisory” team members
- Set up project collaboration site for team, hosted by CIM3 (<http://chm.cim3.net>)
 - Web pages, WIKI, threaded email archive, document repository
- Boeing board chairman Lew Platt has offered to help us find right group within Boeing to discuss NLS/Augment release
- Doug Engelbart has approved initial preservation plans and creation of clean NLS/Augment clone for transfer to CHM
- Rayleen Pak and Ken Harrenstein are initiating the process of creating a clean clone, as outlined in 2/16 CHM SCC status report

NLS/Augment Client Issue

- NLS/Augment uses a thin client to connect to the server
- There is an old terminal client that runs on Windows 3.1 and earlier, but not on later versions of Windows
 - Source code is probably lost: requires further investigation
- A newer client exists that runs on current Windows versions that is written in Digitalk Smalltalk
 - Paid for by Bootstrap Consortium
 - Requires paying a per-copy Smalltalk runtime fee
- Neither of these clients runs on MacOS, Unix, or other systems, and are not suitable for use on the web
- We need to investigate:
 - Runtime fee issue for Smalltalk client
 - Writing a new client in Java that is web accessible

March Tasks

- Complete creation of clean NLS/Augment clone: by 4/8
- Present copy of NLS/Augment clean clone to CHM: by 4/15
 - Open issue: will this just be an archival copy, or can we get it running on a CHM server for internal access?
- Bring up publicly accessible project web site and WIKI to advertise work and gain outside cooperation: by 2/28
- Prepare detailed proposal to right group within Boeing for release of NLS/Augment: by 4/15
 - Depends on how quickly Lew can identify the right group and we can make contact
 - Possible options: Boeing releases to public domain, or Boeing transfers ownership to either Bootstrap Consortium or CHM (tax advantages, etc.)
- Investigate and make proposal on NLS/Augment client issue : by 4/15