Minutes of the COIN-OR Foundation, Inc.
Strategic Leadership Board Conference Call
2007 June 28

1 Scheduled Agenda

The call was scheduled to begin at 11:00 AM Eastern time.

1. Approval of past minutes

2. Resolution to modify the Repository Management Policy

3. Resolution: The COIN-OR Foundation Board authorizes the President to engage the Software Freedom Law Center to represent the Foundation in legal matters.

2 Minutes of the Meeting

Present were Bob Fourer, Kevin Furman, Lou Hafer, Brady Hunsaker, Randy Kiefer, Robin Lougee-Heimer, Ted Ralphs, and Matt Saltzman. A quorum was present.

The President was present and presiding. Meeting called to order at 11:10.

2.1 Approval of past minutes

Ted Ralphs moved to accept the minutes for the board meetings of 2006 December 12 and 2007 April 12.

Brady Hunsaker moved to amend the minutes to indicate that Randy Kiefer was not in attendance at the April 12 meeting. The amendment was adopted.

The motion to accept the minutes as amended was adopted. (Unanimous)

2.2 Repository Policy Change

[See the proposal in the appendix.]

Lou Hafer summarized the changes in the resolution changing the Repository Policy.

Discussion concerning the resolution. An issue was raised about an apparent conflict between the proposed resolution and the current Procedures document.

Ted Ralphs moved to adopt the resolution.

Brady Hunsaker moved to amend the resolution by changing the first phrase of the Revised Wording of Section 4.1, Legal Requirements from "Before a new project or significant contribution can be accepted" to "Before a new project or substantial contribution can be accepted". The motion was adopted.

The motion as amended was adopted.

2.3 Resolution to authorize the President to engage with the Software Freedom Law Center

Robin Lougee-Heimer summarized our contact with the Software Freedom Law Center so far.

Bob Fourer moved that "The COIN-OR Foundation Board authorizes the President to engage the Software Freedom Law Center to represent the Foundation in legal matters." The motion was adopted.

2.4 Other business

The upcoming INFORMS International meeting was discussed.

Discussed the possible role of COIN-OR in maintaining a repository of dissertations and/or code resulting from dissertations related to computational operations research.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06.

3 Summary of Resolutions

- Ted Ralphs moved to accept the minutes for the board meetings of 2006 December 12 and 2007 April 12. Brady Hunsaker moved to amend the minutes to indicate that Randy Kiefer was not in attendance at the April 12 meeting. The amendment was adopted. The motion to accept the minutes as amended was adopted.

- The proposal to modify the Repository Management Policy appears in the appendix. It was adopted with the following amendment: Change the first phrase of the Revised Wording of Section 4.1, Legal Requirements from "Before a new project or significant contribution can be accepted" to "Before a new project or substantial contribution can be accepted".

- Bob Fourer moved that "The COIN-OR Foundation Board authorizes the President to engage the Software Freedom Law Center to represent the Foundation in legal matters." The motion was adopted.

This appendix contains relevant material that was distributed to board members prior to the meeting.

A   Resolution to modify Repository Management Policy

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Resolved that the Coin-OR Foundation adopt the following changes to the
Repository Management Policy.

In Section 2,  Definitions

  * Original wording:

      A project consists generally of a collection of related digital files
      with a common purpose.

    Revised wording:

      A project or subproject consists generally of a collection of related
      digital files with a common purpose.

      An umbrella project consists of a collection of related subprojects.

      A regular project is a non-umbrella project.

  * Original wording:

      A project manager is a person designated by the owner(s) of a project
      to manage development of the project.

    Revised wording:

      A project manager is a person designated by the owner(s) of a project
      to manage development of the project.

      A subproject manager is a person designated by the owner(s) of a
      subproject of an umbrella project to manage development of the
      subproject.

and in Section 5, Care and Maintenance Requirements

  * Additional wording:

      Subprojects of an umbrella project are treated similarly to regular
      projects with regard to care and maintenance. The subproject manager
      acts as a project manager for the subproject.

  The purpose of these changes is to incorporate the notion of subproject into
  the policy.


In Section 3, Responsibilities
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* Original wording

    The acceptance criteria for contributions is specified by the TLC.
    If the TLC is unable to reach a decision regarding a particular
    project, the question is referred to the SLB.

  Revised wording:

    The acceptance criteria for contributions is specified by the TLC.

The purpose of the change is to give the TLC final say as to whether or not a
project is accepted into the repository.

In Section 4.1, Legal Requirements

* Original wording

    All contributions consisting of source code for software must be
    licensed for distribution under an open source license approved by the
    Open Source Initiative. If a contributor feels that no approved
    license is appropriate, alternatives will be considered on a
    case-by-case basis. Where possible, other types of contributions
    should be licensed under an existing open-source license. Where this
    is not appropriate, the minimum standard for licensing is that the
    material should be freely redistributable with attribution.

  Revised wording:

    A contribution consisting of source code for software must be licensed
    for distribution under an open source license approved by the Open
    Source Initiative.

    Other types of contributions should, in general, be licensed under an
    open source license approved by the Open Source Initiative. However, if
    a contributor feels that no approved license is appropriate,
    alternatives will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The minimum
    standard for licensing is that the material should be freely
    redistributable with attribution.

The purpose of the change is to eliminate the possibility of licensing source
code under a license which is not OSI-approved.

In Section 4.1, Legal Requirements

* Original wording

    Before a new project can be accepted into the repository, the
    contributor must submit a Statement of Ownership and Licensing
    (Appendix B) for approval, together with a Confirmation of Licensing

    (Appendix B) or equivalent documentation from each legal owner.

  Revised wording:

    Before a new project or significant contribution can be accepted into
    the repository, the contributor must submit a Statement of Ownership
    and Licensing (Appendix B) for approval, together with a Confirmation
    of Licensing (Appendix B) or equivalent documentation from each legal
    owner.

The revised repository management procedures (TLC document, Guidelines and
Procedures for Project Management, Section 6) defines guidelines for
classifying the intellectual property (IP) content of a contribution to an
existing project as trivial, significant, or substantial. The purpose of
the revision is to require the full set of legal paperwork for
contributions with 'significant' or better IP content.

It's highly likely this will need to be revisited once the SLB finishes its
current round of review of Coin-OR's legal requirements for site use and
contribution to the repository.