Inside the DMTF this month:

Volume 12, No. 9

Message from the Chairman: Mike Baskey

This month, I'd like to take the opportunity to highlight the expanding technology scope encompassed within DMTF. A couple of examples to emphasize are the recent submissions of the Web Services Resource Catalog (WS–RC) and the Open Virtual Machine Format (OVF).

As DMTF evolves into the owners of the information models and profiles for storage and server management, and maps those models to access via Web Services, a number of new submissions clearly recognizes the value we provide. With the submission of the WS–RC spec, we now have the clear mission to define the format for describing, organizing and classifying resources to enable their discovery by management applications.

In addition, with the submission of the OVF spec, we're placing a new focus on higher levels of virtualization – now at the image/appliance level – which complements the virtualization management interface standardization work we already do within System Virtualization, Partitioning and Clustering (SVPC) Working Group. We're now moving closer to an initiative, or at least a forum–style level of interoperability, that which customers will more easily identify.

Upcoming Events

October 23–24, 2007
Systems and Virtualization Management Conference 2007
Toulouse, France

November 27–30, 2007
Gartner Data Center Conference
Las Vegas, Nevada

December 3, 2007
CDM System Health Management Industry Showcase Event
Santa Clara, California (in conjunction with Management Developers Conference)

December 3–6, 2007
Management Developers Conference
Santa Clara, California

DMTF has received more technology submissions for consideration by our membership, which you'll see in the months ahead. We've developed more options to help expedite the standardization process (e.g., work-in-progress, the incubator process, feedback portal, etc.).

A clear momentum is building within DMTF. I see so many opportunities to expand the relevance of the work we're doing, and I invite you to share your thoughts on those and others with me at chairman@dmtf.org.

Mike Baskey
DMTF Chairman

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Preliminary Specs for Member Review

SMASH Implementation Requirements Specification, Version 2.0

A preliminary release 2.0.0a of SMASH (Systems Management Architecture for Server Hardware) Implementation Requirements Specification (DSP0217), prepared by the Server Management Working Group, has been announced.

Building on top of the existing SMASH 1.0 work that offered a consistent method to managing servers using a standardized command line (CLP), SMASH 2.0 adds support for programmatic interfaces, web services and security protocols. By using existing DMTF technologies such as Web Services for Management (WS–Management) and Common Information Model (CIM), IT professionals can lower costs by enabling consistent, intuitive and automated management of servers from multiple vendors.

System Virtualization Profile

DMTF has issued a preliminary release 1.0.1a of the System Virtualization Profile (DSP1042), which was prepared by the System Virtualization, Partitioning and Clustering (SVPC) Working Group.

DSP1042 is an autonomous profile that specifies the minimum top–level object model needed for the representation of host systems and the discovery of hosted virtual computer systems. In addition, it specifies a service for the manipulation of virtual computer systems and their resources, including operations for the creation, deletion, and modification of virtual computer systems and operations for the addition or removal of virtual resources to or from virtual computer systems.

Generic Device Resource Virtualization Profile

The SVPC Working Group of DMTF also prepared a preliminary release 1.0.0a of the Generic Device Resource Virtualization Profile, or DSP1059. The new profile is intended for use when a more specific resource allocation profile (for example, the Processor Resource Virtualization Profile, Memory Resource Virtualization Profile, and so on) for common resource types has not yet been defined or approved, or when the device in question is an unusual device type for which no more specific profile exists.

KVM Redirection Profile

DMTF has made available a preliminary release 1.0.0a of the KVM (Keyboard, Video and Mouse) Redirection Profile, or (DSP1076), prepared by the Server Management Working Group. DSP1076 extends the management capabilities of referencing profiles and providing the capability to manage KVM console redirections provided by the system.

KVM Redirection Profile SM CLP Mapping Specification

The Server Management Working Group has also prepared a preliminary release 1.0.0a of the KVM Redirection Profile Server Management (SM) Command Line Protocol (CLP) Mapping Specification (DSP0836). The new spec contains the requirements for an implementation of the SM CLP to provide access to, and implement the behaviors of, the KVM Redirection Profile.

Diagnostics Profile

DMTF has made available a preliminary release 1.0.0a of the Diagnostics Profile, or DSP1002, prepared by the CIM Core Schema Working Group. DSP1002 describes the Common Information Model (CIM) schema extensions that compose the Common Diagnostic Model (CDM) and provides guidelines for the development of diagnostic clients and providers that will promote seamless integration of option diagnostics into Problem Determination and Systems Management applications.

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Feature: Object Management Group and DMTF

The Object Management Group (OMG™) and DMTF have been collaborating since 2004 to develop and maintain computer industry specifications for interoperable enterprise applications. We are highlighting OMG's relationship with DMTF as it recently released a preliminary spec of the UML Profile for CIM, or DSP0219.

The new spec formalizes the relationship between Common Information Model (CIM) and Unified Modeling Language (UML), defining how CIM models are represented in UML 2.1 and enabling UML 2.1 tools to be used with such CIM models to define them or develop them further.

OMG is an international, open membership, not-for-profit computer industry consortium. OMG Task Forces develop enterprise integration standards for a wide range of technologies and an even wider range of industries. The organization's modeling standards enable powerful visual design, execution and maintenance of software and other processes. Its middleware standards and profiles are based on the Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA®) and support a wide variety of industries.

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Feature: The Value of DMTF Membership

At DMTF, we have established ourselves as an organization that can bring together key technology vendors, government organizations, and end users for the development, adoption, and interoperability of management standards and initiatives for enterprise and Internet environments. The role of the DMTF membership committee is to ensure that current, new, and prospective members understand their entitlements and the value of DMTF membership.

Having a solid value proposition is the cornerstone of DMTF because it directly correlates to you and your company's membership. Your annual dues fund the collaborative work output of DMTF. Our membership committee provides the following key services:

- Tracking membership satisfaction through a yearly membership survey

- Prospective membership outreach and follow-through with web inquiries and leads at numerous trade events

- Developing a clear understanding when a member leaves the DMTF family

- And yearly membership renewals.

Several challenges that DMTF has faced include:

- Ensuring each company has selected the best participation level and is maximizing their entitlements

- Increasing member companies' involvement by encouraging employee contribution

- Having companies get their supply chain and customers involved in the DMTF

- And overall active participation in workgroups, plugfests and demonstrations.

If you have any comments or input for VP of Membership, please feel free to contact me, Wayne Adams, VP of Membership, here. To review the DMTF membership levels and forum memberships, click here and here respectively.

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Featured Q&A

Question:
Does the DMTF work with other standards bodies?

Answer:
The DMTF works closely with its Alliance Partners, which include:

- Blade Systems Alliance
- CompTIA
- Consortium For Service Innovation
- IT Service Management Forum
- National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Network Applications Consortium
- Object Management Group
- Open Grid Forum
- Printer Working Group
- Service Availability Forum
- Storage Networking Industry Association
- TeleManagement Forum
- The Open Group
- Trusted Computing Group
- Unified Extensible Firmware Interface

These leading industry standards bodies are working with and participating in the development of DMTF standards, including CIM – and its semantically rich definitions of management information – as a common approach to address the challenge of providing interoperable distributed

Promoting DMTF at SDC

DMTF was an Association Sponsor and featured participant at the 2007 Storage Developer Conference, held September 10–13 in San Jose, California. Hosted by the Storage Networking Industry Association (SNIA), the three-day event focused on a variety of issues important to storage developers, architects and engineers.

At the event, Jeff Hilland, DMTF Vice President of Technology, presented an "Overview of DMTF Technologies for Storage Development," which provided the following information:

- DMTF technology overview on DASH, SMASH and CDM
- Traditional DMTF work areas such as Protocols, Profiles and Operations
- Emerging DMTF standards in embedded environments, such as Platform Management Controller Interface (PMCI), Low Level Data Model (PLDM), and the Network Controller Sideband Interface (NC–SI).

DMTF a SMASH Hit at Fall IDF

On September 18–20, DMTF attended the 10th annual Fall Intel Developer Forum (IDF), which garnered a record–breaking turnout of more than 12,000 attendees.

IDF attendees who stopped by the DMTF stations at the Intel Pro Zone received an overview of the CDM, DASH and SMASH initiatives, and learned more about DMTF and its presence in the industry. Member companies Marvell, American Megatrends Inc., IBM and Dell (in the Broadcom booth) also showcased demos at the event.

In addition to exhibitions and demos at IDF, Winston Bumpus, DMTF president, and Valerie Kane, VP of Marketing, held a number of press briefings with key media and analysts, which generated more than a dozen feature articles from both domestic and international press. The media was excited to hear about the recently released SMASH 2.0 initiative and the acceptance of the Open Virtual Machine Format specification.

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Virtualization to be Highlighted at MDC

Register now for the third annual Management Developers Conference (MDC) on December 3–6 at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, California. Early bird registration ends October 20, so remember to act quickly to take advantage of the discounted registration price. The schedule is also available on the MDC Web site.

With the recent release of the Open Virtual Machine Format (OVF) draft specification, one of the main tracks at MDC will be on virtualization. The DMTF System Virtualization, Partitioning and Clustering (SVPC) Working Group will participate at the event with a track on virtualization, a presentation by Ron Goering (an SVPC contributor) on the modeling that SVPC has done for virtualization management, a discussion by three vendors of their implementation experience, an overview of the profiles that are in place, and a talk on the OVF work that SVPC has recently undertaken.

DMTF is a sponsor of MDC, which trains and educates software developers about the evolving technologies for developing and deploying enterprise management solutions, including CIM, WBEM, SMASH, DASH, CDM and WS-Management.

CDM System Health Management Industry Showcase Event

In conjunction with Management Developers Conference, the Common Diagnostic Model (CDM) Forum is hosting a showcase event on December 3 at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, CA. The industry showcase will cover:

- An introduction to the CDM Forum
- CDM initiative, development and test tools overview
- Introduction of OEM and third party CDM applications
- Hands-on demonstrations

The CDM Forum and Initiative focus on unifying the industry on a single interoperable, secure and functionally rich interface for diagnostics and enabling the construction of autonomic, multi-vendor health management solutions. The showcase is a perfect opportunity to learn more about CDM and to be a part of the future development and implementations.

For information about the event and registration details, click here.

Member Survey Results: Status with DMTF Standards

In this series, the DMTF continues to report on findings from its annual member survey conducted in January 2007. About 148 members responded at length to our survey. We asked the members to tell us their company's status with the following DMTF technologies.

	Currently implement	Plan to implement	N/A	Don't know	Response Average
Systems Management					

Quote of the Month

Charles Babcock, InformationWeek's Editor at Large: *"Server virtualization will be followed by desktop virtualization; storage is already virtualized or is well on its way toward being virtualized; network access, network resource management, is or will be virtualized along with these other developments. As most of the data center resources become virtualized, it will be possible to move to new ways of doing things. Virtualization will cease to be a feature of some elements of the data center. Rather, data centers enjoying a high degree of virtualization will be the standard way of doing business."*

Member Feedback Welcomed

Talk back: We are redesigning our newsletter and welcome your input.

Please send any comments or suggestions to press@dmtf.org.

Architecture for Server Hardware (SMASH)	22%	31%	34%	13%	2.14
Common Information Model (CIM)	63%	17%	17%	3%	1.52
Web Based Enterprise Management (WBEM)	51%	17%	26%	6%	1.74
Web Based Enterprise Management (WBEM)	51%	17%	26%	6%	1.74
Systems Management	42%	3%	41%	14%	1.99
Alert Standard Format (ASF)	22%	6%	59%	13%	2.42
Desktop Management Interface (DMI)	25%	5%	51%	18%	2.32

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