

Minutes from the meeting with the StanForD-group 2000-11-08

Place: Hotell Palace, Helsinki, Finland

Present: Magnus Wijk, CC Systems AB
Joakim Nygren, Haglöf Sweden AB
Markku Laaksonen, Mitron Oy
Jaakko Mäkinen, Mitron Oy
Sakari Suuriniemi, Metsäteho
Tapio Räsänen, Metsäteho
Anders Nylund, Partek Forest AB
Ola Söderlund, Partek Forest AB
Tuomo Vuorenpää, Partek
Jyrki Pesonen, Ponsse Oy
Hanna Vilkmann, Ponsse Oy
Roland Axelsson, Rottne
Stefan Falk, Rottne
Anders Hansson, SCA
Christian Tharaldsen, Skog-Data AS, Norge
Leif Orth, Södra
Mikko Tammola, TietoEnator
Jarmo Halme, Timberjack Oy
Leif Johansson, Timberjack Sales AB
Mika Talola, Timberjack Oy
Lennart Forsberg, VMR

From SkogForsk: Bertil Lidén, Secretary
Jan Sondell, Chairman

§1 Opening of the meeting

Jan Sondell welcomed all present. The proposed agenda was approved.

§2 Minutes from the meeting 2000-04-10

The minutes from the last meeting was put aside.

§3 Investigation on time and date

Bertil Lidén presented an investigation on how variables for time and date are being used. The report will be completed with a description of how variables for calibration date and control date are used. The final report will be sent out in the beginning of 2001.

It was decided to implement a new variable for restart on an interrupted harvesting site:

VarNr	Name	Type	DataType	Unit	Description
20	RESTARTDAT	1	String	yymmdd	Date and time for restart on a site where the operations have been interrupted
		2	String	yymmddhhmm	"
		3	String	yymmddhhmmss	"
		4	Sträng	yyyymmddhhmmss	"

§4 Communication between GPS/GIS-applications and a bucking computer

Magnus Wijk presented a working paper, which he had created in co-operation with Bengt-Arne Walldén. The paper was based on the discussions in the working team, which was set up at the last meeting. The work has been focused on standardization of data exchange between systems for bucking and systems for GPS and GIS. *The working team was assigned to further develop their proposals before the next meeting in consultation with specialists on GPS and GIS. Jyrki Pesonen, Ponsse, declared his interest to take part in the working team.*

§5 Survey of versions

A list of current versions of bucking systems was presented. The list will be completed and posted on the web. (www.skogforsk.se/marknad/stanford).

§6 Clarification of some variables

A Finnish company had reported a problem concerning which variables that are numeric or alphanumeric. The secretary will take a special contact. He also was instructed to specify which variables that can contain multiple strings. See appendix 1 (not translated into English).

The meaning of maximum diameter and maximum length was straightened out. Given the upper limits of diameter and length, the actual diameter or

length shall be less than or equal to the given limit. The secretary was also instructed to develop the specification of VAR164 (DIAMTYPE) and thereby clarify the meaning of different types of diameters. See appendix 2.

Timberjack and others called attention to the fact that during the bucking operation there can arise a difference between the diameter that the computer has calculated with and the diameter finally measured and registered in the log tally. This is due to the tolerance in diameter that of practical reasons is allowed when choosing where to buck the actual log.

§7 Experiences and demands from Norway

Christian Tharaldsen told about the experiences made in Norway in a project dealing with among other things *measurement to value by means of the bucking computer in the harvester*. He reported a problem with the interpretation of VAR121T2. It was clarified that this is a variable with the type “string” which means that it could consist of up to 80 characters.

Variables in StanForD, which are mandatory (priority 1), cannot always be found in some harvesters. The meeting discussed the need for a so-called minimum file for the apt-file. For the present the current variables with priority 1 shall be looked over and a proposal for change or complementary addition is appended to the minutes. See appendix 2.

In order to make the integration between apt-files and prd-files easier and also make checks in systems like the Norwegian one easier it was decided to reserve the variables 900-950 for user initiated development purposes in analogy with the series 800-899 for the manufacturers development and experiments purposes.

§8 Proposals from SCA Forest & Timber

Anders Hansson described his experiences from SCA with administrating price lists and apt-files. He proposed that in the future longer file names than the present eight characters (+ suffix) should be allowed. It was observed that problem could arise concerning compatibility with older versions of bucking systems. SkogForsk works out a proposal together with SCA in the minutes:

When developing new systems the manufacturers are requested to, if possible, allow longer especially for apt-files.

Mr Hansson also proposed a new variable to make it easier to buck top logs, which often are crooked and causes the stem to be fed too far in the processing unit and therefore has to be reversed to the right point of bucking. The reverse operations cause lower production and less accurate measurement.

In consultation with SCA there is not any need for a new variable for the time being. In the first place the manufacturer should on the display clearly present the actual length and diameter that the processing unit is feeding the stem towards. In this way it will be easier for the operator to interrupt the feeding operation for crooks if necessary.

Secondly one could imagine that there could be a possibility in the administration software to mark a length for different diameter classes at which the feeding operation stops. In this case new variables must be defined.

The issue of registration of “felled but not delimbed and bucked trees” was discussed. A plain solution to obtain such a function has not been identified since one will normally not have these stems registered.

Moreover the question was raised if it is possible to avoid recording logs from too small trees. All manufacturers can in their newer systems log breast height diameter of the trees in the prd-file, which ought to be sufficient to get an impression of the frequency of too small trees processed.

Further steps are regarded as a question between the actual user and manufacturer. Also the issue of recording of time in the drf-file and special “code locks” is a question between user and manufacturer and no StanForD-issue.

§9 Variable 119, FREEBUCK

The secretary was instructed to clarify VAR119. It was observed that the variable also is influenced by other variables, e.g. var190 (MAXLOG)

Current description in the standard:
Bucking permissible to all lengths between min
and max limits. 0 = No; 1 = Yes:
1.. var116/ 1... var111

Proposed new description:

Code stating if bucking is permissible to any length
between min and max limits according to var132
except for those lengths stated in var190T2.
0 = No; 1 = Yes:
1.. var116/ 1... var111

§10 Variable 135, OVERSIZE.

When calculating allowable distance between min and max deviation from the desired log length the different types of var135 must be summed up. If type 1 is specified together with type 3 the values must be added in order to determine the lower limit.

§11 Checksum 993.

There are difficulties determining checksum 993. Depending on which manual is used one can obtain different results. *For the time being it is recommended not to use checksum 993. Magnus Wijk, CC Systems has developed code for determining checksum 993. The code can be downloaded from the web-site for StanForD:*
[\(\[www.skogforsk.se/marknad/stanford\]\(http://www.skogforsk.se/marknad/stanford\)\)](http://www.skogforsk.se/marknad/stanford).

§12 Other questions

Operative requirements for data presentation in harvesters.

Jan Sondell informed of a current project at SkogForsk. A preliminary specification was presented. Experts have been consulted to analyse the problems. Comparisons with e.g. car manufacturers were mentioned. The latter have developed displays that are easy to read under variable conditions.

Project in Finland

Tapio Räsänen informed of a project, which will be started at Metsäteho during the end of 2000. The preliminary title is “Data communication needs and techniques in control of bucking”. The possibilities to use XML (Extensible Mark-up Language) will be studied. Co-operation with users and manufacturers is looked for. The one who is interested is asked to get in touch with Tapio Räsänen. See also appended Powerpoint-presentation.

§13 Next meeting

Next meeting will take place on Monday April 2th at SkogForsk in Uppsala with start at 10.00 a.m.

Secretary

Bertil Lidén