

## **IBM 1401 Restoration Project**

Meeting #3, March 12, 2004

Summary by R. Garner

### Attendees:

Mike Cheponis,  
Tim Coslet  
Mike Falarksi,  
Rhonda Farrell  
Robert Garner,  
Ted Johnston  
Kirsten Tashev  
Mike Zahares

### Unable to attend:

Grant Saviers  
Eric Smith  
Dag Spicer

### Purpose of Meeting:

- Delivery & logistics update, server room layout & tour, power & 50-Hz conversion status, email/web site, recruiting help, documentation and accessioning.

### Meeting Minutes:

- Delivery & logistics update: As we met, the Duesseldorf Express container ship had just moved into Oakland under the Golden Gate Bridge! Expected delivery date is Weds, March 17<sup>th</sup>, with unloading on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup>. Mike Zahares of Trans Technology Group (“Transportation and Exhibit Services for Technology”) is ready to go for the all-day uncrating and unpacking. Plan is to have a cargo truck at the dock to act as a holding station for the packing materials. We’re not sure how long container will be held in Oakland customs before transport to San Francisco (and then to our loading dock via Eagle Freight Services IBM's import broker).
- Robert – Check with Alan Taber, of IBM San Jose Global Logistics Group, who is coordinating customs for us.
- Server room: Rhonda, Mike C., and others worked together to update the floor plan. We settled on a plan we’re all happy with. We toured the server room at the end of the meeting. Mike Z had a spreadsheet showing the depth of the 1401 at 48 inches, and with the room’s steel-frame door at 47 inches wide, we thought we had a serious issue on our hands! Measuring the 1401 in Visible Storage resolved the problem—The 1401 is actually 32” deep.

- Heat, Power, A/C: Mike F does not want to move the second Liebert A/C unit. However, we noted that the running Liebert might be making too much noise (rumbling, grinding). Perhaps it needs some attention?
- Mike F – Is there an opportunity to check with Liebert maintenance whether the 20-ton “System 3” unit is in need of some attention?
- Mike F – Locate any documentation associated with Liebert and EPE Technologies EPS-2000 Data Power System.
- As Grant and Eric were not at the meeting, we did not discuss the 50-Hz conversion issue in depth. We noted that we need to check the system’s schematics regarding ferromagnetic power supplies (in 1402) and possible synchronous motors in 729 tape drives and 1402/03 and card equipment.
- Grant – An updated quote, specs, and pictures for 15 kVA and 20 kVA motor generator sets. Any used units on the market?
- Kirsten discussed status of accessioning. She noted that a cubicle has been established for holding the Museum’s current 1401 docs, per our request last meeting. We emphasized the need to get copies made of important docs and schematics we’ll be using during restoration work. Reinhold can help us translate German documents.
- Dag – Setup 1401 accessioning framework in DBTextWorks.
- Mike C – After framework is ready, accession the Museum’s current 1401 docs.
- Kirsten – What is best process for getting copies made of new docs & schematics?
- Robert discussed progress in searching for volunteer hardware restoration work, in particular retired IBM Customer or Field Engineers. Will submit a short notice for the IBM Retirement Club Newsletter ([www.sjpc.org/sjrc](http://www.sjpc.org/sjrc)). There is one retiring, 40-year veteran at IBM Almaden who worked on 1402’s, Ron Edmondson. Van Synder has been contacted and added to our email alias. There was a suggestion to recruit volunteers at the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 360 Museum event on April 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Robert – Follow up with Paul Pierce’s contacts, including Hans Spengler at the “House of the History of IBM Data Processing,” “Haus zur Geschichte der IBM Datenverarbeitung,” or “HzG” for short, in Sindelfingen near Stuttgart (a team there restored a 1401). And Dick Weaver in Cupertino.
- [1401\\_team@computerhistory.org](mailto:1401_team@computerhistory.org) has been setup by Mike Walton.
- Dag – Setup Museum’s 1401 restoration web page.
- Ted noted that he would be prepared to give a 1401 programming lecture/class in a month or so.
- It was duly noted that a 1401 system bring-up plan is needed!

- Robert – Write-up and distribute for comment a bring-up & restoration plan.