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	Overview.html	16-Sep-2004 12:20	2k	
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	slide1-0.html	16-Sep-2004 12:20	2k	
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Apache/1.3.31 Server at mmm.idiap.ch Port 80



The World Wide Web Consortium

W3C gathers world-wide experts to write Web specifications (Web Services, Semantic Web, XHTML, CSS, etc.)

Work is done through face-to-face meetings, teleconferences, the Web and mailing lists

There are few face-to-face meetings.
Teleconferences once or twice every week



Publishing minutes

RRSAgent automates:

- publication of IRC logs, auto url, access control

> *RRSAgent, record*

* **RRSAgent is logging to <http://www.w3.org/2004/03/18-foo-irc>**

...

> *RRSAgent, bookmark*

<RRSAgent> <http://www.w3.org/2004/03/18-foo-irc#t1853>

...

> *RRSAgent, please make log member-visible*

<RRSAgent> I have made the request, Max



Floor Control

The extra communication channel that IRC provides can be used as a minimal replacement for gestures or other non-audio information

Via IRC

```
<John> queue+ to ask if we should  
remove section 1  
<Zakim> I see Mary, John on the  
speaker queue  
<Bob-chair> ack John  
<Zakim> John, you wanted to ask if we  
should remove section 1  
<Zakim> I see Mary on the speaker queue  
<Al-scribe> John: Yes, I really think  
we should remove the section...  
<Bob-chair> queue?  
<Zakim> I see Mary on the speaker queue
```

Via DTMF

hand up: #41

hand down: #40

* Zakim hears Mary raise a hand

Agenda Control

- agenda items

- action items

<John> agenda+ recommending changing section 3

* Zakim notes agendum 5 added

<John> agenda?

* Zakim sees 2 items remaining on the agenda:

* Zakim 4. solving issue #42

* Zakim 5. recommending changing section 3 [from John]

...

<Bob-chair> Zakim, take up agendum 5

<Zakim> agendum 5. "recommending changing section 3"

taken [from John]



Results

Much less time spent on teleconference administration

- Avoid roll-calls (fewer "who just joined?")
- More accurate meeting records, checked on the fly by participants
- More accessible: to non-native speakers, bad telephone lines



Technical Issues

- Associating Caller-Id info with IRC nicknames
- Reverse-engineer the hardware protocol
- DTMF sounds

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Shortcomings

- Audio recording: not a priority
- Videoconferencing: not obvious
[investigating]
- Collaborative text-editing: the Web of course, except...
- Collaborative whiteboard: ditto

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Arising problems

- People who aren't on IRC missing some of the information? Not really. For floor control, DTMF can be used
- Discipline: from the meeting chair (speaking turns, agenda), scribe (must take minutes 'real-time'), participants (respect speaking turns, follow IRC)
- Using IRC as a parallel discussion channel



Enhancements

Planned

- DTMF noise cancelling: more DTMF commands (straw polls?)
- Recording: we could segment audio recording from speaker data and agenda data



Enhancements

Future?

- Real-time line display monitoring (from original interface)
- More communication channels: collaborative editing
- Enhance synthesis of minutes: accurate record (audio?) vs. short synthesis
- Emotional vs. argumentative states
- ASR "Zakim, ...?"



W3C Teleconferences

Principles

- Optimize teleconference time to focus on technical issues, not overhead
- Avoid repeats: record as much as possible

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In Practice

- Must record who was there
- Must record what was said, by whom
- Meeting record has to be published on www.w3.org
- System must be robust [calendar]
- Accessible: platform-agnostic software



Zakim

Commercial telephone bridge offering:

- Software-driven control interface
- multiple/parallel teleconferences, accessible through pass codes
- Caller-ID information
- Line activity monitoring

Originally, the information above is available to the operator only.



Zakim's Web Interface

Dynamic web pages for bridge control and
monitoring

Provides basic functionality but still limited.

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IRC

A real-time communication channel, parallel to the phone

```
> /join #foo
    You have joined channel #foo
    Users on #foo: Mary Max
> what's the agenda of today's
meeting?
<Mary> http://www.w3.org/2003/05/12-
foo-wg-meeting.html
> thanks Mary.
```



IRC for taking minutes

Reliable distributed ASR...

<Al-scribe> Max: I see two solutions to this problem

<Al-scribe> Max: one is to remove section 1.

> I actually said 'section 2', Al.

<Al-scribe> Sorry, thanks for the correction, Max.



Zakim-bot

The interface between Zakim and IRC is Zakim-bot, a fake IRC user

```
> /invite zakim #math
Zakim (rrs-bridgg@18.29.0.30) has joined channel #math
> Zakim, list teleconferences
<Zakim> I see VB_VBWG(ssml)12:00PM,
XML_QueryWG()12:00PM active.
> Zakim, this is VBWG
<Zakim> ok, Max
> Zakim, what's the passcode?
<Zakim> the conference code is 8294, Max
...
<Zakim> +Max
```



Zakim-bot Features

Roll call

> Zakim, who's on the call?

<Zakim> On the phone I see Max, Mike,
Mary (muted), Alexei

...

<Zakim> +Andrew

...

<Zakim> -Mike

<Zakim> VB_VBWG(ssml)12:00PM has ended

<Zakim> Attendees were Max, Mike,
Mary, Alexei, Andrew

...

* Zakim excuses himself; his presence
no longer seems to be needed

Zakim (rrs-bridgg@18.29.0.30) has left
channel #mmipen: #mmipen

Muting/unmuting

<Alexei> Zakim, mute me

<Zakim> Alexei should now be muted

Line monitoring

<John> Zakim, who's speaking?

**<Zakim> John, listening for 10 seconds
I heard sound from
the following: Mary (10%),
Robert (45%)**
