Using Shared Work Locations with the RASSP Enterprise System

I. Introduction

The Build 2 production version of the RASSP Enterprise System has been upgraded to support multiple engineers working concurrently in the same DMM workflow task. This is accomplished through the use of a shared work location. The intent of this short document is to describe the functionality of a shared work location.

II. Shared Work Location

A shared work location is the place where DM2 business items are checked-out to when more than one developer needs access to the attached data items, within the same DMM workflow task. Such is the case with an MGC design database. A shared work location is implemented as a directory at the file system level. However, unlike private work locations, a shared work location is not definable by any OS level user. A single shared work location is defined for each new project in DM2 (e.g. AN_UYS_2A project) at the time of project creation.

III. Defining Shared Data

Shared data is defined in the DMM workflows by specifying *SharedWL* as the destination attribute for the business item in the value-attributes folder. Only those business items with *SharedWL* specified for the destination attribute will be checked-out to the shared work location. All other business items will be checked-out to the user's private work location. There are no restrictions on defining shared data. A workflow task can have all shared data, all private data, or a mixture of shared & private data. Furthermore a business item that's defined as shared data in one workflow task can be defined as private data in another workflow task, and vice-versa.

IV. Managing Shared Data

Since multiple developers will have access to shared data, it must be managed differently from private data. RASSP requires all users of the enterprise system to define a private work location. DM2 requires that all work locations be owned by valid users. Therefore a new DM2 user was created to be the owner of the shared work location. The name of this new DM2 user (e.g. AN_UYS_2APM) is the project manager. It is important to point out that this is a new user at the DM2 level only and not at the OS level. Logging into DM2 as this new user is accomplished by validating an existing OS user (e.g. cfry) as the project manager.

When the OS user who has been validated as the project manager executes "projlist" and selects the project, an omf login window will appear. The user should then login as the new DM2 project manager user. The user name for this account is the project short name concatenated with PM (e.g. AN_UYS_2APM).

The project manager also has the responsibility of transitioning DMM workflow tasks which have shared data defined. This is required to prevent one developer from transitioning a task while another developer is still working within that task. Instead, when a developer hits the "transition" button on the DMM toolpad, only the private data from his private work location will be checked back into DM2. Shared data residing in the shared work location will remain checked-out and the DMM workflow task will not transition. When the project manager hits the "transition" button on the DMM toolpad, the shared data will be checked back into DM2 and the workflow task will transition.