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1. Regarding the Industry Standard File Naming Convention for Sheet files, the Sheet Type Code, which is specified with a numerical digit, will be difficult to assign or interpret without looking up the values in the table.

Response: The Industry Standard File Naming Convention was presented in the Construction Specification Institute's (CSI) Uniform Drawing System document. This document will become a keystone in the National CADD Standards effort that is being promoted by the National Institute of Building Sciences' CADD Council. It is suggested that this comment be forwarded by New York District to CSI for consideration (POC: Ms. Cathleen Curtin, AIA, Technical Program Coordinator, Construction Specifications Institute, Phone: (703) 684-0300 x748 e-mail: CCurtin@smt.csinet.org).

2. Regarding the Tri-Service Optional File Naming Convention:

a. The project code should be at least three characters long. This allows the possibility of a brief mnemonic identifier for the project. Although the two character code allows 1296 possible combinations using every digit and character, the codes would need to be assigned sequentially using a Base-36 numbering system. It would not be easy to remember what project is associated with a code.

Response: File naming conventions have probably been the most difficult item to standardize amongst the users. Every site has a different method for file naming. The Center decided on a two character project code based on a CADD standard released by South Atlantic Division. The Center will reevaluate the number of characters assigned for project code.

b. Although the intended use of the Sheet Sequence Identifier is not clear (i.e., is it the sequence for the Discipline Code or the Sheet Type Code), it should be standardized to match the sheet reference number.

Response: The Sheet Sequence Identifier refers to the number assigned to a plotted sheet (Ex. sheet A-1, sheet M-24, etc.). The Center will provide a better explanation of each file name field.

3. The purpose of the file name should be to provide a unique identifier for the file (like a primary key in a database), and which can be easily assigned and interpreted. A naming convention that identifies the project and the sheet reference number are sufficient to do that. The sheet reference number is composed of the Discipline Code and a Sheet (or Model) Sequence Number. The Sheet Type Code (in both the Industry Standard and Tri-Service conventions) is not necessary to provide a unique identifier.

It provides additional attribute information, which is useful, but superfluous when trying to work within an 8-character name (using the database analog, like combining eye color with the Social Security Number in an employee table primary key).

Response: Concur, that this argument would be applicable for sheet files. Model file users would want a more descriptive file name while searching for files they need referenced from other disciplines. Nevertheless, you raise some valid points about the purpose of file names and the necessity for a Sheet Type Code. The Center will have to reevaluate the reasoning behind the Tri-Service Optional file naming convention.

4. I propose replacing the Tri-Service Optional File Naming Convention with the following convention. For model files the format would be PRJ_AFPx or PRJAFPxx, where PRJ is a three character Project Identifier, _ (underbar or underline), if used, is a separator, A is a Discipline Code, FP is a Drawing Type Code, and x or xx is a Sequence Number or User Defined. For Sheet files the format would be PRJ_A01x, PRJAR01x, PRJA01xx or PRJA001x, where PRJ is a three character Project Identifier, _ (underbar or underline), if used, is a separator, A or AR is a Discipline Code, and x or xx is a Sequence Number or User Defined. The model file names are distinguished by three alphabetic characters after the Project Identifier. The sheet file names will always have a digit in the third place following the Project Identifier (and _ if used). This method should be easy for users to assign and interpret. The users assigning the codes should be able to memorize the more commonly used Drawing Type Codes, and probably already uses a Project Identifier and Discipline Code on a regular basis. This proposed file naming method will work with both the Industry Standard Drawing Type Codes and the extensions of the Drawing Type Codes provided with the Tri-Service Optional Naming Convention. With this method, one would only need to know the project codes and the sheet reference number to locate a sheet file.

Response: The Center appreciates any suggestions on file naming. The Center will evaluate your suggestion. The only exception would be assigning one character for the Sheet Sequence Number, this should be at a minimum two characters.

5. On another subject: GIS - Related Symbols on page 42: The missing Civil/Site, Survey and Mapping, and Utilities symbols should be included in this standard, not by reference to the Spatial Data Standards. The symbols in the Spatial Data Standards are not as well documented as the symbols included in the AEC Standard, the Spatial Data Standard is not available in printed form, it is very difficult to "read", and sprinkles the data on symbols among volumes of other information.

Response: The Center will be adding more symbols to the Civil/Site and Survey and Mapping libraries based on user feedback. However, it will still be recommended that any additional symbols required from the TSSDS libraries be downloaded or requested from the Center. The concerns about the documentation of the TSSDS symbols should definitely be forwarded by New York District to Mr. Bobby Carpenter, Phone (601)634-4572 or e-mail carpenb@ex1.wes.army.mil.

6. Appendix B is missing the level numbers.

Response: The Center is currently assigning level numbers to level/layers names. The Center wanted to wait and see what levels/layers were accepted before going through the tedious process of assigning level numbers.

7. The appendices use too many individual PDF files. It is tedious to print or view the standard. At a minimum, combine each discipline into one file.

Response: Concur, the final version of Release 1.7 available on the Internet will combine more of the files together. The Center was worried about making the PDF files too large for those users with slow download speeds.