Minutes FDSN WG-2

Present: Torild van Eck, Marino Russi, Paolo Comelli, Gerardo Suarez, Domenico Giardini, Jim Fowler, Ray Willeman, Josep Vila, Rhet Butler, Ogie Kuraica, Inna Sokolova, Ray Buland, Salvatore Mazza, Marco Olivieri, Reinoud Sleeman, Seiji Tsuboi, Eleonore Stutzmann, Jim Lyons, Tim Ahern, Bernard Dost

Minutes of last meeting were given as ppt file at the last meeting and taken up in the minutes of the general FDSN (II) meeting. No objections/comments/additions to those minutes.

SEED issues:

1. Proposal by Doug Neuhauser was received only a few days before the meeting. It will be further discussed and decided upon by email, within a period of 3 weeks after this meeting. Subject is the application of the current definition of band code, in terms of sample rate and corner frequency, when implementing this for accelerometers, electric and magnetic field sensors.

2. A presentation was given by Takeshi Nakamura on the installation of a new ocean bottom cable observation network. For this implementation a new set of blockettes are proposed (10001-5 and 10050). The proposal was well received, but it was felt to contact the vendors of instruments on these proposed changes, since these may interfere with vendor specific information that is already in use. Also, it was discussed how to deal with any time delay that is mentioned in these new blockettes and especially the connection to the existing information on timing in the existing blockettes.

3. A request for the registration of a mime-type for SEED files was received. The general feeling was that there is no objection to do so, it could be helpful to some users and it will not harm any other users.

4. Tim Ahern brought up that there was a need to reword the part on the time order of the FIR filter coefficients in the SEED manual. The proposal will be distributed and decided upon by email.

No specific issues on realtime data exchange protocols and methods. Seedlink is used heavily by many data centers.

Concerning the distributed data center concept, which is presently being implemented in the European-Mediterranean within NERIES, arclink software plays a major role. The software is implemented at a few centers and may be used by more centers outside the region in the (near) future.

The concept of the redistribution of data by the data centers is implemented in a somewhat different way by the existing data centers. Important for all data suppliers is the need for statistics on data usage. It was suggested to look into the possibilities to have standard formats for these statistics. Tim will throw-out a straw-man for a possible standardization.
For archive data there is no restriction, unless specifically mentioned (e.g. delay in re-distribution for experiments). For real-time data there is a stricter policy for the redistribution of data within NERIES compared to the policy of IRIS. It was suggested to have a standard notification for acknowledging data exchange information.

Salvatore brought up the issue of a standard naming of the instrumentation in the SEED blockettes. At present there is no standard and the same instrument may appear in different ways in the data base of the individual data centers. This issue is of importance to the way arclink is working and is related to the synchronization issue of (distributed) databases. In the discussion there were mixed feelings: there are providers that want to implement a detailed response, others will only need a generic rough response. It was decided that the people who want to use this, to sit together and come with a proposal to the WG.

QuakeML is coming to maturity. The present version is close to. It was proposed to have a station response definition in XML (connection to QuakeML developments!)

Ray will have a separate discussion on new station coding standards. He mentioned that the proposal will bring station coding information more in line with SEED. The new system will make the International Registry more a repository of information rather than a body that is controlling the code.

Bernard Dost, 15-01-2009