Folks,

I asked those who are using Steltor’s CorporateTime application for personal calendaring and resource scheduling to reply to me with comments, either positive or negative. Keep in mind that I did not ask about other products, so these results should not be interpreted as a unanimous endorsement of CT. Thanks to all who replied.

Eleven institutions replied, all with positive remarks. Several had migrated from Netscape Calendar to CorporateTime (similar product). The key statements and institutions are:

University of Scranton: We installed the CS&T product last year and are very pleased with the functionality, performance, support, and overall value provided.

University of Northern Iowa: We recently converted to Steltor's new server and very shortly plan to migrate our user base from the Netscape client to the newer version Steltor clients. We are migrating in small steps to avoid problems. Only problem we had was with the web-based interface to the server and that was solved in less than a day by moving that interface to an Apache server.

University of New Mexico: We have found CT to be a good product - ease of use, LDAP-based, relatively easy to administer, web and client/server front-ends, Palm client available. Some units on campus are attached to their existing calendars (Groupwise, Exchange, etc.), but CT seems to be good enough that it is becoming a standard without our having to force the issue.

Rochester Institute of Technology: We are using Corporate Time and we have found it to be an acceptable solution. They were slow providing support for the Palm Pilots which held up our rollout. However, I believe they now support the Palms so we are rolling on.

Willamette University: We're running it on a Solaris server along with some other applications and it seems quite happy. One reason we chose Steltor is because it has a Mac client, a PC client, and a web interface. We've gotten the Palm connector to work pretty well, but we're still working on the Outlook connector. The clients have been stable on both Macs and PCs. So far, I've heard few complaints.

North Dakota State: moved from MeetingMaker to CorporateTime and were assisted by CS&T in migrating (successfully) our MeetingMaker database to CorporateTime. We are using their PIM synchronization, web and desktop interfaces. A big win for us was the availability of the server software for the Linux operating system. In addition, their adoption of SASL and future plans to provide native support for Kerberos V will facilitate more complete integration with our service management and authentication/authorization systems. In general, our experience has been positive.
University of Puget Sound: The University of Puget Sound has purchased a site license for faculty and staff use of Corporate Time. We investigated several products and decided this one would fill virtually all our needs. There is a desktop client for both Macs and PCs as well as a very good Web browser interface. It synchs with Palms and Pocket PCs. You can put resources (rooms, equipment, cars, and the like) into the database without impacting the number of user licenses you are charged for. Lots of things to like about it.

University of Notre Dame: We are using CT and love it. Excellent results.

Goshen College:

1. We’d like to be able to store attributes about resources and then search for resources by attribute. We use CT for room scheduling, but this would greatly simplify things.

2. We’d like stronger task management and the ability to do group task management.

3. We’d like better input/output capabilities for exporting CT data to other calendar applications (which are beginning to proliferate).

The IETF calendaring standards are still pretty immature and so it seems like things are taking a long time to get where these applications can talk to one another.

I'm glad not to be doing Exchange or Groupwise. LDAP (we use iPlanete Directory Server) as the glue that holds all services together is a good strategy.

Virginia Commonwealth University: Implementation has been highly successful in that departments and users are happy with the service, management of the server has required almost no effort, and support of users has not been excessive.

Queens University: We have been using it for about 2 years, we are reasonably pleased with the product. We have about 500 registered users - it is not going to be used by everybody who just wants a personal calendar. It syncs in well with palm pilots.

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