



AQS Quarterly Newsletter

February 2004

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Ed's Intro

Hope this Newsletter finds you well. I'd like to thank you for uploading your agency's data into AQS in a timely manner. This is an important year for area designations for ozone and PM_{2.5} and it is critical that AQS contain a complete and current data base for this and other purposes. Thanks for your support.

As Jerry explains on page 2, we are planning the next AQS Conference and have been thinking about the training courses we will offer at the Conference. Based on feedback, we are planning a course on uploading toxic pollutant data. We'd appreciate any input you would like to provide.

Our records show that about 75% of users are using the AQS web application. Comments have been generally positive, especially since SecuRemote is not needed with the web application. Everyone needs to convert to the web application soon since we will not support the client-server version much longer. As Jake explains on page 2, most of the new enhancements (e.g., new report format) will only operate on the web application. So it is important that all users convert to the web application in the next month or so (mid-March).

The AQS Team has also been busy addressing the "Top 30" enhancements users recommended at the last AQS conference (see page 12 for an update).

A number of these enhancements will be incorporated into the release that contains the new report format change scheduled for mid-March. The AQS Team is currently testing the new software for many of these changes.



Also, we plan to introduce an updated version of AQS Query, our on-line query tool for summary data. One feature is that the revised AQS Query will provide on-line access to up-to-date AQS reference codes.

Lastly, as Chuck explains on page 4, we are making a change that will allow the level 1 support team to complete most password changes and resets rather than referring these requests to level 2 and 3 support. Our goal is to speed-up the password process.

I encourage you to read the Newsletter and contact us with any questions or suggestions you may have. Hope to see you at the AQS Conference in May.

Ed Lillis

14th Annual AQS Conference

Jerry Husketh

Well, things are coming together (contractually speaking) and it looks as if we're going to **CLEARWATER BEACH, FLORIDA** for the 14th Annual AQS Conference. While site-visiting Tampa/Clearwater, Florida in December I found a nice hotel that wants to host us and I believe it's a fit. It's got large classrooms and sleeping rooms (with hair dryers and coffee makers), free exercise room, heated pool, and close by there are local shops, street vendors and restaurants. Better still, it's available MAY 24-28, 2004.



The hotel in Clearwater Beach is located on 10 acres of beachfront property overlooking the Gulf of Mexico and its only 25 miles from the Tampa International Airport (TPA) and the airport shuttle is convenient. The hotel has offered us current per diem rates of \$95/night plus taxes and I've booked 125 peak night rooms at that rate. Since the contract has not (as yet) been signed I can't make the official announcement and give the name and address of the hotel. This will be posted as soon as the contract with the contract is officially signed.

As in the past, we will offer training on the newly web-enabled AQS system (highly recommended for new users) as well as other system related training such as Toxics Monitoring, reports and retrievals. At this point the conference agenda has not been discussed thoroughly so stay tuned to the TTN AQS conference web page (<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/airs/airsaqs/conference/conferences.htm>) for more info soon.

All in all, it should be a great site for another great conference with lots of training and lots of interaction between users, young and old. Mark your calendars now and plan to be there. Hope to see you there!

Active AQS Enhancement Projects

Jake Summers

The following projects are in various stages of completion as mentioned in each specific item:

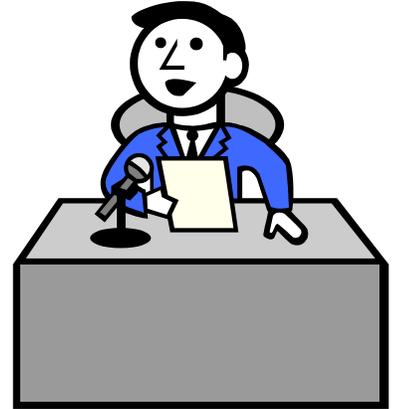
1. Report System Interface Redesign

The new screens for selection by different geographical areas, dates, parameters, etc. were designed and sent to users for comment. The software development has been completed and is currently being tested. Each report was modified to interact with the new screen interface. This enhancement will be implemented in February only on the web. Since the client will not be updated, the reports will not work on the client after the implementation.

2. Exceptional Event Processing

This enhancement changes how exceptional events data is summarized and reported. The capability is being added to allow storage of non-concurrence by EPA.

Also, because attainment analysis differs for exceptional events caused by nature versus man, additional summary records will be computed that separate these events. Summary records will be created excluding all exceptional events and only exceptional events that have concurrence. This modification will be implemented in February.



3. Data Migration/Conversion

The data conversion has been completed for 1971 to 1992. The summary data for 1973 to 1992 has been loaded into AQSPROD. The data conversion for 1957 to 1970 was postponed while the static AQS database, AQSSTARS, was built. (See #8 below.) We anticipate that the remaining data will be converted by April.

4. Speciation Report

This new report will create a work file for import to a spreadsheet to simplify analysis of speciation data. This report is currently being tested and will be implemented when the new report system interface is implemented in February.

5. AQS Query

This project was discussed in the last newsletter. The software has been installed in the test environment and has been tested. Modifications are being made based on our test results with the goal to implement in March. After implementation, the database used by the queries will be updated monthly from AQSPROD and available for public access at the web address: <http://www.epa.gov/aqspubl1/select.html>. One feature is that it will contain queries for reference tables for AQS codes making it a convenient source of up-to-date codes. Also, this will make the data available faster for public access so ensuring that data anomalies are not present will be very important.

6. AQS Documentation

The AQS user manuals are being updated by: (1) adding all edit/error messages to the data coding manual and (2) including all formulas/calculations in the data dictionary. We hope to have both manuals completed before the AQS Conference in May.

7. Discoverer Implementation on WEB

Discoverer implementation on the web has been delayed while the National Computer Center purchased and installed the necessary servers. These servers are now in place so that development and testing can begin. The completion date is uncertain until we actually begin additional work. We hope to have it implemented in March.

8. AQSSTARS Database Development

This database was built on our server, Archie, to allow retrieval of air quality data for use by different groups doing health effects research. The database was necessary so that the data could be retrieved from a database frozen in time to eliminate changes in the data. The data was copied from AQSPROD on November 26, 2003. The database includes all raw data from 1980 to 2003. After the conversion of 1957 to 1970 is complete, the pre-1980 data will be added to this database. The retrievals and database will be archived for possible future uses.

PM_{2.5} Speciation Monitors

Jake Summers

The PM_{2.5} speciation monitoring and reporting has been operational since before the conversion to AQSPROD. The laboratory analysis and data reporting for this network is performed by Research Triangle Institute (RTI) through a contract with EPA.

The speciation network includes a group of sites designated for long term trends as well as other sites that State/local/tribal agencies have designated for additional geographic coverage. The monitors are owned by the screening group assigned to RTI for data reporting. There are also other agencies that report speciation data directly through other screening groups.

Retrieval of this PM_{2.5} speciation data has been an issue because of the large number of parameters and the data reported by agencies other than RTI. To simplify data retrieval, the monitor type "TRENDS SPECIATION" had been assigned and used by RTI. This monitor type did not apply to monitors that are not part of the trends network but had been used for some of these other monitors.

To simplify the retrieval of this important data, a new monitor type "SLAMS SPECIATION" has been assigned. The monitor type for the monitors owned by the RTI screening group has been changed for all monitors that are not on the list of designated trends speciation monitors.

All PM_{2.5} speciation data reported by RTI can now be retrieved using the two monitor types. Other reporting organizations for PM_{2.5} speciation data that are not part of the network reporting to RTI are encouraged to change the monitor type to "SLAMS SPECIATION" to allow retrieval of this data by monitor type.

New Password Reset Capability

Chuck Isbell



At our request, the EPA National Technical Services Division has developed software that will enable the EPA Call Center support staff (1-866-411-4EPA) to reset AQS passwords and unlock Oracle accounts. In the past, the Call Center staff (AQS Level 1 support), was able to reset your Unix password, but not your Oracle password. Whenever the Oracle password needed to be reset, or the Oracle account needed to be unlocked, the Call Center staff had to transfer your ticket to our Level 3 support staff (Teri Tapp or Marwan Samara). With the new password reset software, Level 1 staff will be able to reset passwords and unlock Oracle accounts while you are on the phone.

This new password reset software has been developed and tested. The Call Center Staff is being trained, and documentation and procedures are being put into place. The Call Center expects to begin using this new software on Tuesday, February 17 (day after the President's Day holiday). Please don't hesitate to provide feedback (positive or negative) on your assessment of password resets once the Call Center is using this new software.

Please note that CDX passwords will still need to be reset by the CDX Helpdesk at 1-888-890-1995.

BIG CHALLENGE: 2003 OZONE AND PM_{2.5} DATA to AQS - NOW!

Fred Dimmick, EMAD, AQTAG



The EPA and State/local/tribal agencies are on the verge of designating non attainment areas for the new ozone and PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards. After winning in the courts and rolling out a new monitoring network for PM_{2.5}, its time to take this next major step. Now the "good" part - using the air quality data from 2001, 2002, and 2003 for this worthwhile purpose. Uploading the 2003 ozone and PM_{2.5} data into AQS very early in 2004 is a BIG challenge.

Ozone: The ozone data needs to be in AQS to support the designation process. The data should have been quality assured and any issues worked out, by ... well, by now. There will certainly be a few issues that may take longer; they will be completed as the final designation discussions occur during February and March. But the 2003 ozone data should be in AQS as you read this. If its not, please do what you can to make it happen. While this is a BIG challenge, we are thankful to the many agencies have already fulfilled this task.

PM_{2.5}: The PM_{2.5} data needs to be in AQS as soon as possible as well. Agencies will be submitting their recommendations for PM_{2.5} non attainment areas in mid February. It would be best if agencies can complete the analysis of the filters, QA the data and enter them into AQS as they make these designation recommendations. Over the spring and summer, EPA and agencies will be discussing these recommendations and the 2003 PM_{2.5} data is needed to make those discussions go smoothly. While this is a BIG challenge, I know some agencies are working hard to complete their quarterly (December) data submittal and have their 2003 PM_{2.5} data in AQS soon. Please make sure everyone knows about the need to enter PM_{2.5} data in AQS as soon as possible.

Your efforts to encourage and facilitate the collection, analysis, and entry of quality assured data into AQS (not to forget the subsequent data analyses) is vital to protecting the public from ozone and PM_{2.5} air pollution. Keep up the good work!

Discoverer *Web!*

Bonnie Johnson



The web version of Discoverer is almost a reality. The network environment for it is basically established - some patches need to be installed and approvals need to be granted. We are in testing and setup mode now. We plan to make it available to users before the end of March.

What does this mean for you? If you've never used Oracle Discoverer, you'll appreciate the ability to create and format your own queries. You will likely need some training in the use of the tool and you will need to become familiar with the table structure of the AQS database.

If you've been using the client version of Discoverer, you'll want to save any queries you've created to reuse. We plan to import the current Business Areas (B/A's) that you've grown accustomed to just as they are, so you should be able to continue to use them. New business areas will be created for general use.

Hopefully, these new B/A's will be more intuitive and will not require the use of sequential numbers to differentiate items between B/A's. We anticipate that you will gradually shift to using the new B/A's so that the old ones may be dropped. You will NOT need SecuRemote for the web version!

Training for Discoverer is being planned for the next AQS Conference. Those of you already familiar with it will not need to attend this training. The "look and feel" of the web version is very similar to that of the client/server version.



AQS Web and Phase out of Client/Server

Nick Mangus

The web version of AQS continues to be a big hit and use keeps rising. As of the second week in January, 73% of all users that had used the system in the last 60 days are using the web version. During December, a whopping 80% of all files uploaded were sent via CDX with the web version (versus FTP with the client version). Also, we have become one of the main users of CDX in terms of the number of files uploaded.

To those of you that have already transitioned, thanks for making the effort and I hope you're enjoying the web version. For those of you that have not yet made the transition, I'm afraid it's time I have to twist your arm. Two deadlines are looming large.

First, in late February, we will be implementing new reports software in the database, and after that time, the full client will no longer be able to create standard reports. (All load processes will still work.) We will send out e-mails with exact dates once we know them.

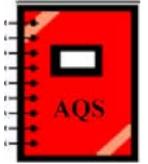
Then, we will cut off access to AQS using the full client on March 15 (beware the Ides of March!). Also at this time we will retire Volcano, the FTP server for AQS. So, if you have any data on volcano that you need, you should retrieve it before then. We have had to keep the client running so that our California users can share data, but we've now incorporated that functionality into the web version.

For instructions on how to set up and use the web version of AQS please visit the AQS web home page at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/airs/airsaqs/aqsweb/aqswebhome.htm> and see the paragraph for "first time users" at the top. Print out the "AQS Web User Guide" and then follow the instructions for "AQS Initial Setup." Also, if you have not already registered with CDX, the registration key that was sent you in the mail has expired, so you will have to call the CDX help desk at 888-890-1995 for a new one. Please note that you must be a valid AQS user (including having signed a security form within the last 12 months) before getting your CDX account. (Contact Jerry Husketh if you have any issues with your AQS account.)

Thanks and please let me know if this presents any problems for you.

AQS Documentation Status

Chuck Isbell and Bill Frietsche



At the last AQS conference in Albuquerque, we heard from many users that our AQS documentation needs improvement. We have been working, and continue to work, on improving the quality of both the Data Coding Manual and the Data Dictionary.

For those of you not familiar with our manuals and their naming conventions, the Data Dictionary (abbreviated as AQ1) contains a list of all the fields in AQS, and their descriptions and attributes. The Data Coding Manual (abbreviated as AQ2) provides detailed information about the transaction formats and the fields in each transaction. The Appendices for the Data Dictionary and Data Coding Manual contain lists of the AQS reference tables and code values.

The Data Dictionary is being improved to include information about fields that are system generated, as well as the algorithms used to calculate summary level information and precision and accuracy statistics. The Data Coding Manual is being improved to include the business rules and error messages for the edits conducted by the system on each field during the batch load process. The Appendices are being updated to include a list of the acronyms that are used throughout the Data Dictionary and Data Coding Manual.

We have begun the process of incorporating the business rules, error messages, and various calculation algorithms into the next version release of the Data Coding Manual. Inaccuracies in the current versions of both manuals (AQ1 and AQ2) are also being fixed as they are found, and more detail for the field descriptions are being added where possible. The new versions should provide a significant improvement in usability and user-friendliness to you. We plan to have the next versions posted on the AQS TTN website prior to the AQS conference.

The new releases will have the following improvements:

Data Coding Manual (version 2.0)

- Added business rules and error messages
- Added detail for latitude/longitude and locational data elements
- Fixed inaccuracies as encountered, including specification of code lengths, rather than physical field length
- Spelled out all acronyms.

Data Dictionary (version 2.0)

- Added algorithms for system calculated fields
- Spelled out all acronyms
- Fixed inaccuracies as encountered.

Appendices

- Added a list of acronyms used in the Data Coding Manual and Data Dictionary
- Updated the code values for each reference table from the production reference tables.

We appreciate your patience and understanding while we improve the user manuals. Thank you for your support.

Update on the Retirement of the Legacy AQS Mainframe Application

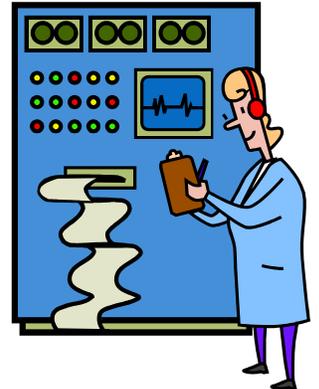
Chuck Isbell

In the last AQS Quarterly newsletter (October 2003), we announced our plans to retire the old legacy mainframe AQS application after 16 years of reliable service to the air quality user community. The retirement will be completed in four phases or steps. The first phase of the retirement plan was to provide time (through December 31, 2003) for agencies to retrieve any historical data that they may want. The second step, beginning in early 2004, was to remove all user access to the old application. The first two steps are complete with user access to the legacy AQS removed as of January 12, 2004.

The third phase will complete the migration of historical data from the legacy AQS to our in-house server (Archie). Data migration is on-going and expected to be completed within the next couple of months. Once we are satisfied all the data migrated properly, we will begin the final process of physically removing the legacy AQS database, including the data and software, from the AIRS mainframe environment.

From this time forward, historical data (that once resided on the old AQS system) can be obtained from our in-house server Archie by making a request to IMG. This can be done by sending an email to Virginia Ambrose (ambrose.virginia@epa.gov). In the near future, this process will be simplified when a new web form becomes available on the AQS TTN website (<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/airs/airsaqs/>). You will be notified when this new form becomes available on the TTN.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about the retirement (shutdown) of the old mainframe AQS.



Processing Toxics and PAMS Data for AQS

Ed Lillis

Over the past few months, we have received a number of questions about entering toxic air quality data into AQS. As a result, we thought it would be helpful to bring to your attention a software package that the OAQPS monitoring group has developed to assist agencies process and analyze toxics and other data (e.g., VOC's collected under the PAMS networks).

The software package is called VOCDat which is a Windows-based program that imports and displays air pollutant data. Users can use VOCDat to perform quality assurance, exploratory data analysis and prepare AQS data ready sets.

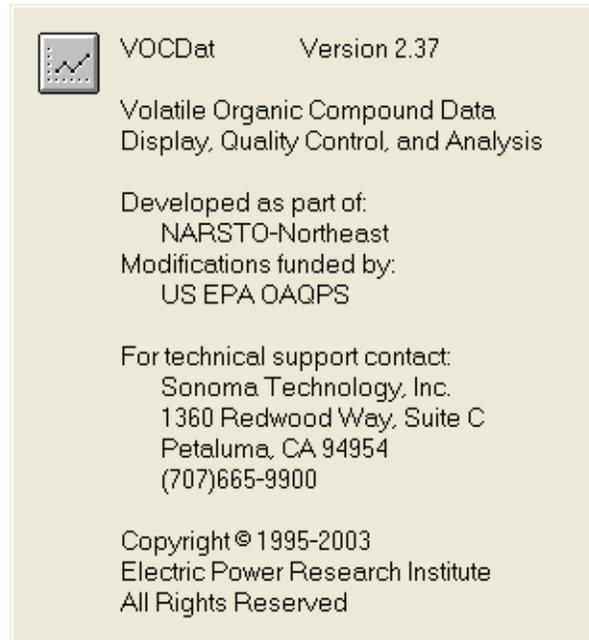
The following is an article prepared by Sonoma Technology, Inc. the consultant for EPA who developed the software.

VOCDat: Data Validation/AQS Preparation Software

Hilary R. Hafner, Sr. Manager, Air Quality Data Analysis, Sonoma Technology, Inc.

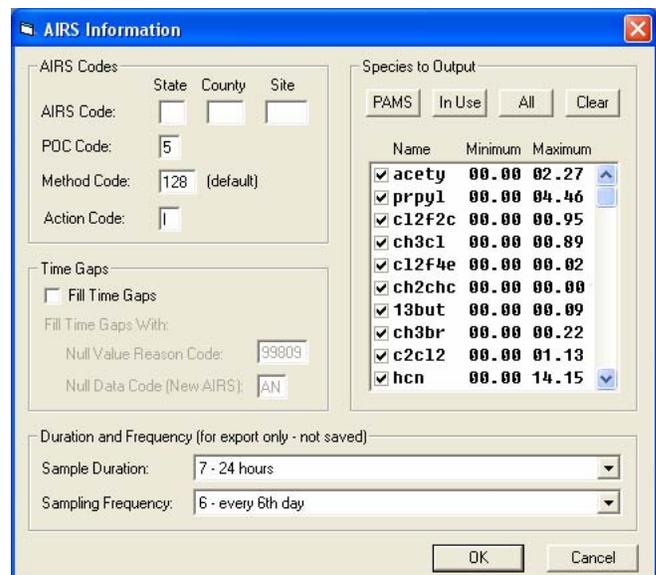
Overview

Since the mid-1990s, the U.S. EPA has sponsored the development and enhancement of VOCDat software. VOCDat is a Windows-based program that imports and displays air pollutant data collected as part of the National Air Toxics Trends Sites (NATTS) and Photochemical Assessment Monitoring Station (PAMS) networks. Users then can perform quality control tasks on the data (e.g., apply screening criteria, visually inspect data), perform exploratory data analysis, and prepare AQS-ready data sets. One of the goals behind the development of this software was to enable the states to rapidly validate and release their data.

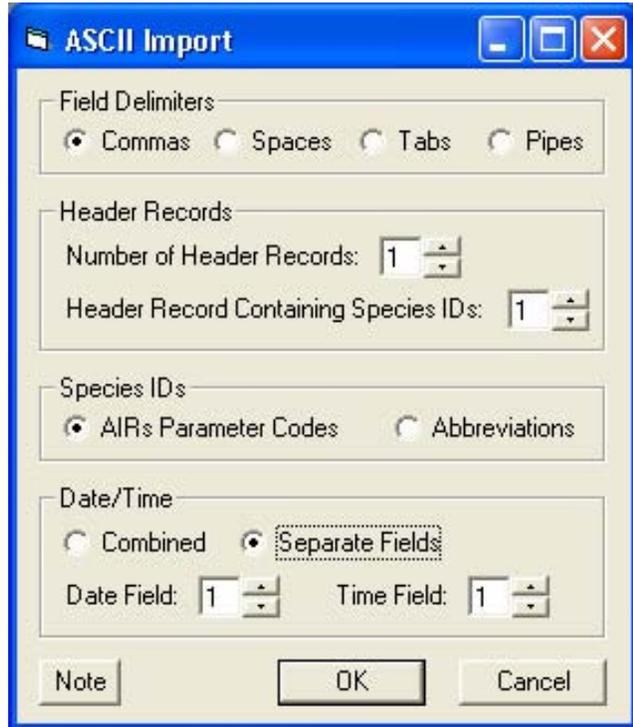


VOCDat Features

Import and export AQS R2 format. VOCDat also can import and export AQS AMP370 (old AIRS) format data.



Import flexible format ASCII files. This feature assists the user in handling data obtained from more than one laboratory and the various file formats in use.



Import other special types of data. For example, VOCDat imports pre-2003 versions of Turbochrome (automatic gas chromatograph) format data employed at some PAMS sites.

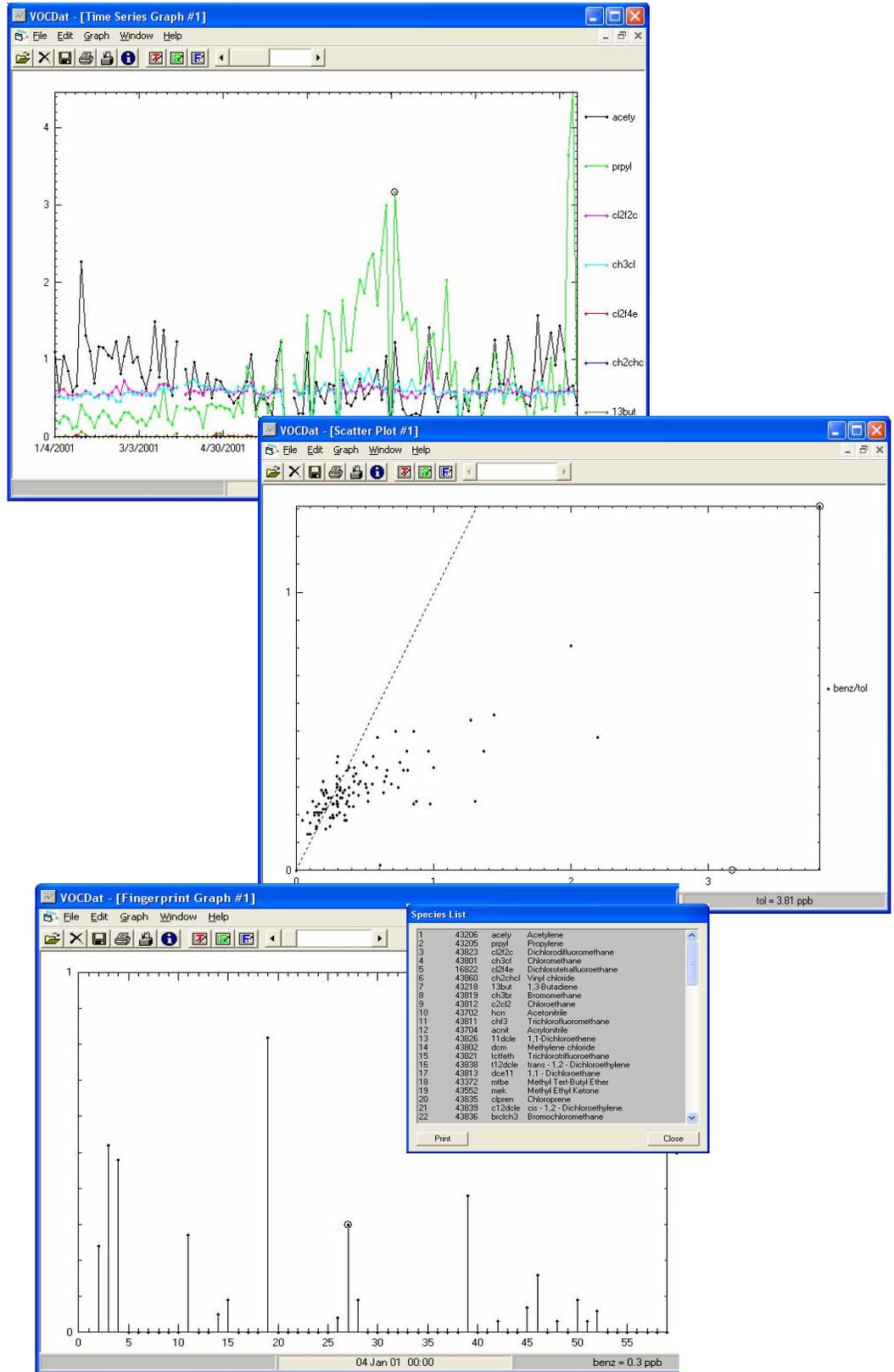
Export formats suitable for other software. To provide the user with more data analysis choices, VOCDat export options include formats suitable for use in spreadsheet and statistical software.

Edit data quality control (QC) codes on screen. QC codes are then translated into user-selected null data codes needed for AQS. The quality control (QC) codes may be changed for individual data points as well as for the entire sample on all plots. VOCDat also keeps a log of changes including user-input comments.

Perform QC screening checks. The screening checks are designed to provide the user with an idea of samples with potential validity problems. Screening checks are customizable to accommodate the differences in pollutant concentrations and characteristics among sites. VOCDat also can compute summary statistics of the pollutant concentrations.

Prepare graphical displays of time series, scatter, and fingerprint plots.

The concentrations of the pollutants may be displayed using time series, scatter, and fingerprint plots. Time series plots show the concentrations of species over a specified time period and are useful in showing the temporal behavior. Using scatter plots, the relationship between species may be investigated. Fingerprint plots show the concentration of each species in a sample and help to identify unique characteristics of the samples.



Obtaining VOCDat

VOCDat software is available free at <ftp://ftp.sonomatech.com/public/vocdat/>. To register for notification of future updates of the software and to obtain limited technical support, e-mail Hilary Hafner at hilary@sonomatech.com. The VOCDat installation package includes species lists for NATTS and PAMS and a user's guide. Training material (presentation and training manual) is available by request.

Top 30 Status

Ed Lillis

We are working to complete most of the "Top 30" changes that users asked for at last year's Conference. About a third has been completed and we hope to finish 4 to 5 others in the February/March time period. In the following table, we refer to a "R-31" project which is our short-hand for the AQS System Interface Redesign project that Jake described in his article. A number of other unrelated projects (e.g., new species report, handling exceptional events) have gotten bundled with the R-31 project and they will all be implemented at the same time R-31 is put into production (February).



| R A N K | RECOMMENDATION | PLAN | TARGET DATE/JANUARY STATUS |
|---------|---|---|--|
| 1* | Browsing/Maintenance - Would like to enter dates or specific info. Want ability to select/view data by date range and query by date and POC #. | The current raw data browse/maintain screen will be modified to allow selection by date range. The display will be modified to display more rows of raw data. | Completed in Version 2.8 |
| 2* | Quick look Report- Remove blank pages. and should give only the parameters requested. | | Completed |
| 3 | Have pop-up progress meter / bar / % complete indicator - | | Software being evaluated and maybe included as part of the R-31 changes in Feb. |
| 4* | User Support a) Improvements in general at help desk - e.g, response time, refer to right person, question not answered; have a live person answering the phone; b) Publicize the hours and email address. c) Help desk needs to be open PST hours. -Suggestion = Have west coast help desk. d) Hotline should be more proactive to get info out quickly. | a) General improvement should be realized once TSC is transitioned to Call Center. More staff available. New Call Center staff will need training on AQS and whom to transfer calls to (level 2 or 3). b) Help desk operational hours will be posted on the AQS TTN. c) Level 1 & 2 now works until 6:30 pm ET (3:30pm PST). d) TSC is working to get info out more quickly. | a) Essentially completed. Transition to Call Center has been completed. Level 1 support has been given ability to make Canyon and Unix password changes. b) Done c) Done d) Ongoing |
| 5* | Communications- Establish bulletin board for all problems reported to Helpdesk. Post questions and answers - Need user support network - establish new or revive former list server. | a) Use one of the free group services available on the web. b) We will continue to update the FAQ area on the TTN. | a) Completed. A new group was created on Yahoo named "AQSUsers". To join, follow the instructions from Yahoo at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AQSUsers/ Group members may post messages at any time (19 messages have been left to date). This group is not monitored by IMG. b) ongoing |
| 6 | Documentation- Coding manual needs clarification (e.g. include examples especially locational, lat/long). Standardized form. | Enhance Data Coding Manual to provide better info on Locational type data. Provide examples. - Look into how other EPA applications are providing end-user documentation for this LDP info. - Research guidance from other sources (such as OEI standards folks, etc.) | Material on locational type data has been added to the Manual which is available on the AQS web site (Version 1.4). Additional material will be added prior to the Conference. |

| | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|
| 7 | <p>Error Messages</p> <p>Clarify error messages, especially numerically coded errors. (e.g. site shutdown - clarify monitor ID not in database error). Better explanation of Oracle error messages</p> | <p>Users need to notify us on specific unclear messages they would like clarified</p> | <p>Users need to bring unclear messages to our attention so they can be clarified.</p> <p>Error messages are being added to the Data Coding Manual which will be available before the Conference.</p> |
| 8 | <p>Reports-</p> <p>Ability to change sort data order.</p> | <p>The screens to create reports will be redesigned to include this function.</p> | <p>This change will be made in 2 steps. The 1st step is to modify the report format screens (R-31) in Feb. The 2nd step is to modify each report to implement this function.</p> |
| 9 | <p>Documentation -</p> <p>1) Data dictionary should</p> <p>(a) spell out acronyms. and</p> <p>(b) include list of acronyms and</p> <p>c) definitions needed for required fields.</p> <p>2) Document and define all algorithms in a separate document or index to the Data Dictionary & Coding Manual.</p> | <p>1)</p> <p>a) Spell out acronyms within text.</p> <p>b) Add list of acronyms as an appendix.</p> <p>c) need more info on need.</p> <p>2) Obtain the algorithms from either the (a) case tool, (b) old data dictionary, (c) Federal Register, or (d) EMAD.</p> | <p>1a) and b) Work on acronyms has been completed and the Data Dictionary and Data Coding Manuals have been revised and are available on the AQS web site.</p> <p>1c) under review</p> <p>2) Draft report on algorithms has been received from contractor and final report should be available to users in March.</p> |
| 10 | <p>New Feature</p> <p>AQS needs a cancel report / cancel session should immediately cancel.</p> | | <p>This feature will be added along with other changes as part of the second phase of the "R-31" changes</p> |
| 11 | <p>Training-Training needs to include supporting documents or references - should all be in one place, e.g., on web site</p> | <p>agree</p> | <p>We are in the process of consolidating our training materials on the AQS web site (Feb).</p> |
| 12 | <p>Training-</p> <p>Training in states to increase # of knowledgeable users in using AQS. Train on data requirements; i.e. POC #s, Site moves, data form (PN); Also, what are data used for -esp. if public has access. (L)</p> | | <p>10 user training sessions were conducted in July-October 2003 and 1 in Feb 2004. We are currently planning the training sessions for the next Conference.</p> |
| 13 | <p>Reports-</p> <p>Raw data report that shows monitor, pollutant, date.</p> | <p>Report is similar to the speciation report and might be developed as part of it.</p> | <p>This report will be included with the R-31 changes in February.</p> |
| 14* | <p>New Features-</p> <p>Gray out unavailable options (e.g., query). Button selection should gray out or change color while system is working - hourglass symbol, message bar.</p> | | <p>Completed. The web version of AQS eliminated this problem.</p> |
| 15 | <p>Documentation-</p> <p>Need guidance for reference tables GeoCommon data. (In general, need better guidance for fields with complex functionality. Need field edits added to Coding Manual.)</p> | <p>a) Enhance Data Coding Manual by providing better guidance for fields with complex functionality.</p> <p>b) Add field edits</p> | <p>a) Ongoing</p> <p>b) Contractor is working to add field edits to the Coding Manual. Final document expected by the next Conference.</p> |
| 16* | <p>Reports-</p> <p>Separate column for null codes and flags in raw data reports.</p> | | <p>Completed</p> |

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| 17 | Documentation- Need to define description - on line documentation for method, null data qualifiers. (Do this as part of upgrading AQSQuery to provide interactive lookup of all AQS codes on a public website.) | Enhance AQSQuery to provide public access to all AQS reference codes and online help for how to choose which reference code (such as Method) is applicable. | In the short term, we added some static code descriptions on the AQS web site http://www.epa.gov/ttn/airs/airsaq/manuals/codedescs.htm The updated AQSQuery will provide on-line access to up-to-date AQS codes. (March). |
| 18 | Reports- Add parameter code and name to all reports. | This will be done as reports are optimized and converted to text format. | Will begin to add on report-by-report basis after the "R-31" project is completed in Feb. |
| 19* | Reports Paging down in a query is slow. (on-line?) | This function will be evaluated after the conversion to the web. | We believe this has been completed as part of the web application. |
| 20 | New Feature - Site history viewer (see what parameters are connected to a site, with dates of site operation, etc.) | See Reports discussion below | No action planned on this report in FY-04. |
| 21 | Correct - Be able to pull a batch file of data in "Correct". | This function may be possible at a later date. | No action yet. |
| 22 | Reports - Be able to save queries and standard criteria cross report. | The screens to create reports will be redesigned to include this function. | This function will be added as part of "R-31" changes in February. |
| 23* | Reports - Data Completeness report not working well. - Add seasonal indicator to monitor to correctly calculate data completeness. | | Completed in Version 2.6. |
| 24 | P and A data - P&A Monitor/Site data loads without giving users a chance to see it. Need PARS output report so results can be reviewed before loading to AQS. | Likely will not do this in short-term. It is a major change. Prefer to address other issues first. | No action planned in FY-04 |
| 25 | New Feature - A. Current status of database should be on login page. B. Send out an email as soon as the system goes down. | A. A web page may be designed to easily include this information before accessing the database. B. Emails are currently sent out when system is down. | A. We explored the notion of displaying real-time CPU utilization rates for Canyon and decided against doing it since there have been few recent occasions when Canyon has been overloaded. When it has, we have alerted users asking them to take certain actions. Unless an alert has been issued, users should not be concerned with Canyon's utilization rate. For this reason, we have decided not to display it. We are still exploring the web page option B. Ongoing. Still some work to do to develop a process so users are notified when CDX goes down. |
| 26 | Training- Need for information and guidance on what data should go into AQS - Basic training issues. | Agree | Will be adding some basic Data Monitoring Courses to the AQS web site in February. |

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| 27 | Duplicate Monitor - Duplicate Monitor function should only copy skeletal/ correct info since details on what fields/info need to be changed for the new site. | | not yet scheduled |
| 28* | Reports - Some reports (e.g., Quick Look for non-criteria) need to show higher level of precision to display data. Users should choose # of decimal places. | Report optimization will include this review. Users will not have option to specify number of decimals. | Completed. Precision and accuracy and QuickLook for non-criteria pollutants have been modified. |
| 29 | Monthly data matrix viewer. | See Reports discussion below | No plan to develop this report in FY-04 |
| 30 | Discoverer- Raw data accessible thru Discoverer. | Looking into this but probably not before new web version of Discoverer is available | We expect the web version of Discoverer to be available in Mar. and plan to include access to some raw data. |

Note: Items with an asterisk (*) have been completed.

In addition, users also recommended that we develop a number of new reports. These included:

- Design Value Report
- Exceptional Event Report
- Network Review Report
- Data Histogram Report
- Quarterly Report
- Speciation Report
- Toxics Data Report
- Data Inventory Report
- Monitor Precision and Accuracy Summary Report

At this time, we plan to develop the speciation report and the toxics report. We will reassess the other reports once these have been completed.

We also plan to continue to modify each of the existing AQS reports so that they are available in text format and, in some cases, develop additional work files (e.g., AMP440).

Reaching IMG Staff by E-Mail

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For help using AQS, please contact the EPA CALL CENTER:
1-866-411-4EPA (1-866-411-4372) Hours: 6:00am - 6:30pm Eastern

For help with CDX, please contact the CDX Help Desk: 1-888- 890-1995