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**Subject:** SMWG Meeting Summary  
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Hey Guys,

Just wanted to give you an overview of the Social Media Working Group (SMWG) meeting I attended this afternoon. Lisa Cole from CBIIT demoed their instance of Confluence and elaborated on it's potential uses. Most of what she shared we already know but there were a couple of points she made I thought you might be interested in:

- CBIIT is exploring the use of Confluence as an Intranet tool (like we are)
- Confluence has built-in API connectors on the back-end to integrate with Jira and Sharepoint
- CBIIT's Confluence instance authenticates users and grants access based on NCI's LDAP
- CBIIT has their blog posts separated out into different pages like we would like to do and are using labels to achieve the filtering. This is the model we should use for our blog.
- CBIIT has migrated all of their knowledge centers onto Confluence and no longer use any other tools for that purpose.

Kevin Broun and others gave demos of OCE's instances of Sharepoint and Chatter (Chatter is a component of Sales Force). Neither seem relevant to anything we're doing right now but I'd be happy to give you the details of the presentation if anyone is interested.

Kevin Broun demoed Adobe Connect which is nearly identical to GoTo Meeting. My impression was that the tool is more powerful for collaboration and meeting in real-time as the frame-rate was better so the image was sharper and the permissions tools were more robust. It's weaknesses compared to GoTo Meeting are that licenses that would allow more than 500 users to attend a session are extremely expensive (enterprise level license with negotiated price. No price is listed.) and the recording options are very limited. At the end of the meeting it was announced that there is a workgroup in place to standardize collaboration software at NCI and they are leaning toward a proprietary Citrix product for the hardware and software.

The highlight of the meeting for me was the presentation of a tool called Google Hangouts. It permits up to 15 users to video conference with each other both inside and outside NIH's network. It also has collaboration tools that allow for multiple attendees to edit documents within the hangouts window. The upsides are that I think the video conferencing will function much better than office communicator does now and it has a relatively powerful file sharing tool. It's also 100% free. The downsides are that each person must log in with a google ID (if you have a gmail account you already have one) and that the file sharing is limited to just the google docs format. Google docs can be converted into word, excel and powerpoint files easily but any collaboration using hangout must be done in google's proprietary format. There are also a couple of browser plugins that need to be downloaded to use this tool but that process is pretty straightforward. I think this might be a good tool for us to use just within our group. I'd like to demo this for you all sometime soon.

Chris