Chapter XXVI

Virtual Meeting
Five-Year Vision/Narrative

Virtual meetings work pretty well today, using a combination of audiobridges, Web casting, and videoconferencing. But there are still a lot of inconveniences, minor annoyances, and technical limitations. If we look ahead several years, how might the virtual meeting experience be improved? This chapter looks at a possible virtual meeting scenario in the year 2010, where we look at the experiences of various participants in a virtual meeting. All of the technologies that make the following narrative possible are available to some extent today.

The meeting is a staff meeting with 16 participants:

- Four, including the driver, are in a car
- Six are in a conference room
- Five are telecommuters, all connecting from their homes
- One is on vacation in Death Valley, but doesn’t want to miss this important meeting. He is hiking in Ashford Canyon, a particularly isolated part of the National Park.

The participants will be viewing some slides, as well as brainstorming some ideas.