

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 179 (7/26/06)

1. Purpose: A regularly scheduled meeting of the RACC was held from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EDT in Room 3246 on Wednesday, July 26, 2006, to discuss and address national and regional AWIPS issues, problems and concerns.
2. Regions In Attendance: The following regions (and other NWS organizations) participated in the conference call: **ERH**: Cindy Scott, Dave Novak; **WRH**: Gar Nelson, Carl Gorski; **ARH**: Duane Carpenter; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Timm Decker; **NRC**: Jeff Sickles
3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:
 - a. Status of OB7.1: We are testing OB7.1 on the NHOR system here at WSH today. Tomorrow, we will have an OB7.1 beta teleconference call to summarize the beta testing at three sites so far (VRH, NMTW, NHOR). We will test at the first WFO (site SLC) next Tuesday (August 1). All the critical DRs have been fixed and most of the 45 major DRs have been fixed. The install is taking a bit longer than expected (8-10 hours).
 - b. Status of the Notification Server Upgrade (OB6.1.1 Emergency Release): Next week, the NCF will install the Notification Server (NS) update (fixes the socket time out problem) at all OB6.1 sites. Each site will be called to get their verbal consent. The update will take about 10 minutes to perform. The update will involve the replacement of the executables on the servers and then a restart of the NS. If any problems occur, a backup script will put the original NS executable back in place.
 - c. De-activation of the DS and the need for sites to take action concerning local applications: Between OB7.1 and OB7.2, a mod note will be finalized which will de-activate the DS. The sites need to be aware that any applications still on the DS will need to be migrated to the Linux Operating System, so the applications will work correctly. Some problems already noted are the Spanish language translation for CRS and the change to Postgres on Linux.
 - d. HazCollect: There will be another OAT and DT&E for HazCollect but on a smaller scale than the previous OAT. This will be held to mainly fix the trouble tickets from the first OAT. There will be a lot of advance notices of test messages and PNSs and for the sites already activated, these test messages will be broadcast.
 - e. Status of Upcoming New Hardware: Jim Lane gave a briefing on the upcoming hardware being procured for field deployment in the upcoming months ahead.
 - o Printer replacement – we are getting close to field deployment and are awaiting the sign off of the mod note next week. We can begin to ship to sites in the next 2-3 weeks. We are putting together a shipping schedule and the focal points should contact Jim Lane if they want a site to have a higher shipping priority.
 - o DX3 and DX4 – We are in a different phase of the OAT whereby the sites can perform their

own installs. We will continue this OAT until the end of August and if all goes well, we can begin field deployment in the September-October time frame.

- o LX workstations – These will be HP boxes (with the Linux Operating System) and the units have been procured and are stored in a warehouse. An OAT schedule has not been firmed up yet and the testing procedures have not been written. Field deployment is not expected until after the New Year.

- o Zyxel replacements – We are slowly coming along and have been testing the prototype. An OAT won't occur until the end of this year or after the New Year.

- o LDAD server replacements – We are reviewing the engineering proposal from Raytheon. Like the workstations, the LDAD replacements will be an HP box with the Linux Operating System. We don't expect field deployment until late next summer.

- o CP replacements – No firm time frame has been set but we expect new CPSBNs deployed to the field in the next fiscal year.

f. DR Review Process: Ed Mandel gave a briefing on the DR process and referred to the Power Point Presentation titled “DR_team_Process_Description” which is attached to these minutes. Basically, Ed went over the purpose of the DR team, its members (voting and support staff), an overview of the process and the team's responsibilities (includes the classification of a DR which includes the mission priority, the severity and the urgency).

g. The MPLS Transition in AWIPS: The new router is replacing the Larscom CSU/DSU at all sites with the existing cables between the AWIPS routers and the Larscom CSU/DSU to be replaced with Ethernet cables to the new router location. We need to know the minimum distance between the AWIPS router and the new router that's replacing the Larscom. At most sites (such as WFOs), the routers will be in the same racks and a site will need only the minimum length of cable (10 feet). At co-located WFO/RFCs, the cable will be in the RFC part only and not in the WFO part of the building.

Phil Cragg needs the regional focal points to fill in the attached spreadsheet (titled “AWIPS sites by Regions”) with information on the minimum length of Ethernet cable required. Phil requests that the soft copy be returned to him within about 2 weeks.

ACTION ITEM 179-1: The Regional Focal Points need to fill in spreadsheet with information on length of Ethernet cable required per site and to return it to Phil Cragg.

h. Focal Point/Participants Reports, Problems and Concerns:

Alaska Region: nothing significant to report.

Eastern Region: What is the status of the ATAN for the Hydro VTEC (RiverPro)? Ed Mandel took the action to get an update on this status.

ACTION ITEM 179-2: Ed Mandel to find out status of the ATAN for the Hydro VTEC.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We are finishing up the WES 6.0 with GFE added and should be done in several weeks. We are pleased to report that we have received all the OB7.1 delta upgrades via FTP to date.

NRC: nothing significant to report.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, August 9, 2006. If you know of any agenda items you wish to be discussed at this RACC, please e-mail them to Jim Stenpeck and cc Wayne Martin. This is to ensure that all of the appropriate WSH personnel attend this RACC to address your issues.