

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 196 (4/4/07)

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, April 4, 2007, to discuss and address national and regional AWIPS issues, problems and concerns.
2. Regions In Attendance: The following regions (and other NWS organizations outside of Silver Spring) participated in the conference call: **ERH**: Joe Palko, Cindy Scott; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Gar Nelson; **CRH**: Bill Gery, Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Duane Carpenter; **PRH**: Bill Ward; **GSD**: Joanne Edwards; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Timm Decker; **NRC**: Jeff Sickles; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: Shannon White;
3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:
 - a. Status of OB7.2.1, OB8.1 and Other Software Issues:

Major Release OB7.2: There are 9 sites remaining to install this release. There are 18 sites left to install the 42 kernel and we expect all sites to have it installed by April 12.

Maintenance Release OB7.2.0.1: All CDs containing this release were shipped on March 20 and GTSI has confirmed that all sites received the disks. A total of 95 sites so far have installed this security patch emergency release.

Maintenance Release OB7.2.1: The readiness review was completed yesterday and national deployment is ready to go. Regular deployment is expected to begin on April 10. Raytheon will be shipping the installation CD in groups of 40. The first group went to the sites that have already installed the replacement LX workstations. The remaining shipments will be sent according to the LX installation schedule.

Major Release OB8.1: The second alpha installation is occurring today at site BCQ.

Major Release OB8.2: The contents for this release have been finalized and regular deployment is slated to begin next January.

SMTP: Testing is now continuing. A few problems were found and are being corrected. There is a one month delay in the implementation and the remaining regions are expected to begin activating around April 30.
 - b. GFE Pre-release Pilot Project: The purpose of the Raytheon pilot project document is to describe the activities for the pre-release of OB8.1 GFE software to non-AWIPS workstations in the field. The plan is attached and is titled "**GFE Pre-Release Release Plan v3.1.**" This effort is a pilot program in order to work out the process by which this task can be integrated into the baseline OB8.2 and future release schedules. This includes integration into the existing alpha and beta test schedules. Deploying the OB8.1 software to the field early will allow field sites to evaluate the software, focusing primarily on local formatters that must be tested for integration with the OB8.1 baseline GFE software. The scope of this release is limited to providing the GFE

software and associated documentation and scripts for installation to the Government. For the pre-release sites, the NCF will push the software to the sites on an individual basis.

To effectively implement the GFE Pre-Release project, it is proposed that the government integrate the activities of the GFE Pre-Release with OB8.1 alpha and beta. Thuy Tran of the OS&T office gave the group a summary of the activities to be performed for the GFE Pre-Release. The summary that she read from is the attached document titled “**GFE Pre release summary-v3.**”

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

Alaska Region: nothing significant to report.

Central Region: We are installing OB8.1 on our BCQ system today. Site LSX had severe weather yesterday and they had issues with the text data base products failing to store. No more details were available but it was noted that a trouble ticket was opened up.

Eastern Region: Sites CTP and BGM had problems with their service backup and not being able to get the IFPS grids restored. We suspect it is a SSH problem but can't be sure. A trouble ticket was opened up. What is the status of the developer's portal? It was suggested that Joe contact Randy Chambers since he is the focal point for this project.

Pacific Region: Pacific Region is more than willing to test new functionality and releases (such as the Chamorro Standard Time as part of OB7.2.1). But, they are nervous of testing out products that are run automatically via a cron such as the Hourly Weather Roundup (HWR) and/or the Daily Climate message (CLI). They would not want to have these products sent to the world. They have localized as both HFO and GUM before. Cindy Scott from Eastern Region suggested that the Pacific Region (PBP) could just store products locally (i.e. transmitted to 000). Others raised the notion of whether PBP could be temporarily pointed to the Test NCF (TNCF). James Washington didn't believe so, but wasn't certain. James suggested that Bill contact Randy Chambers with his question.

Southern Region: nothing significant to report.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

GSD: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: nothing significant to report.

NRC: nothing significant to report.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 2007. If you know of any agenda items you wish to be discussed at this RACC, please e-mail them to Jim Stenpeck and cc

Frank Lucadamo. This is to ensure that all of the appropriate WSH personnel attend this RACC to address your issues.