

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 218 (February 20, 2008)

1. Purpose: A regularly scheduled meeting of the RACC was held from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST in Room 3246 on Wednesday, February 20, 2008, 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**: Joshua Watson; **SRH**: Eric Howieson, (and visitors from WSH: Jim Lane and Mary Buckingham); **CRH**: Bill Gery, Greg Noonan, (and visitor from WSH, Sanford Garrard); **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Bill Ward; **NWSTC**: Jim Totusek, Heather Galan; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Timm Decker;

3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:

a. Status of Field Installs of OB8.2 and Alpha Testing of OB8.3 (Frank Lucadamo): A total of approximately 120 sites have installed OB8.2. The installations are going rather smoothly with no problems.

Concerning OB8.3, the alpha period is underway and will continue through March 21. Installations were successfully completed on TBDW and on the Central Region Headquarter's system (BCQ) over the past week. A group of forecasters will evaluate the software at BCQ during the week of February 25. The next alpha install is planned for the Silver Spring RFC test system NMTR on February 27. Regular deployment is expected to begin around June 9.

b. Status of Upcoming Software Releases (Karen Tepera):

Maintenance Release OB8.2.1: The beta installs for this release will begin next week and continue for a 2 week period (Feb. 25 – March 7). This install will take approximately one and a half hours to perform. The Readiness Review is currently scheduled for March 11. Regular deployment is expected to begin on or about March 24.

OB9.0: The software development is underway and most requirement reviews are also under way.

LDAD Server Replacement: Phase 1 of this project has been completed and there are only 9 sites left that have not shifted their LDAD operations from the old HP to the new Linux servers.

c. Status of Severe Weather Checklist (Wayne Martin): Wayne has received comments from the Southern Region, the Western Region and the NCF. If anybody else has comments to the checklist, please send them to Wayne by this coming Friday (February 22) so he can finalize the document and distribute it.

Jay Morris of the SST mentioned that as we enter the severe weather season, we want the sites to

monitor their WarnGen to check for any performance issues. If there are any problems, the site should call in a trouble ticket to the NCF so we can get any issues resolved early before we get too deep into the severe weather season.

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

Alaska Region: We are shooting for the end of March to implement the new LDAD servers in the region. We have some issues in getting LDM working and communicating between sites. These sites have the new LDAD server in mode B. Could we get assistance from anybody on the various issues? Bill Gery stated that they have things up and running well (in terms of LDM operations and other issues) and that they could assist the region. Jim Lane (who is visiting the Southern Region) stated that he would start an e-mail thread dealing with some of the specific items that Joe Rubel brought up.

Central Region: The installation of alpha OB8.3 went well. It takes approximately 2.5 hours to install. We have not received the hardware for the upcoming OAT for the new XTs and AXs. Mary Buckingham (who is visiting the Southern Region) responded that she is aware of this and it is not a problem yet.

Eastern Region: nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: nothing significant to report.

Southern Region: We installed the new XTs today and things went well and the mod note is okay. We plan on installing the new AXs tomorrow.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We have received the final version of OB8.2 and the alpha version of OB8.3. We plan on integrating both into the WES as soon as possible.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2008. 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.