

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 225 (May 28, 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, May 28, 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; **CRH**: Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Bill Ward; **GSD**: Joanne Edwards; **NCEP**: Joe Byerly; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach, Jim Totusek; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig, Shannon Key; **NRC**: Jeff Sickles; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: Shannon White;
3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:
 - a. Status of Beta Testing of OB8.3 (Frank Lucadamo): Site CTP at State College, PA installed the latest beta version this morning. Unfortunately, Raytheon reported today that there are two more issues and they will need another beta site to test both solutions either next Monday or Tuesday. The two issues are a SVS issue (SVS says wrong day after 00z) and a tropical VTEC ETN issue (DX/NMTW- purging issue with tropical hazards in GFE).
 - b. Status of Upcoming Software Releases (Matt Kensey): Concerning the GFE Smart Tools (part of the OB9 pre-release), we are ready to move forward and work with the developers. Last week, we were delivered the first tools from Tim Barker from the WFO at Boise, ID.

OB8.2.1.1: Regular deployment began on May 19. As of May 28, 95 sites have the corrections in place.

OB8.3: The developers are working to close the remaining beta trouble tickets and discrepancy reports in preparation for the upcoming System Verification Review (SVR) on June 5. Two new items were reported on Tuesday (DR 20231 and DR 20233). Depending on the resolution, these items could impact the beginning of deployment. The final regular beta call is scheduled for Monday, June 2 at 2 pm EDT. Regular deployment is currently expected to begin around June 16.

OB8.3.1: The AWIPS Support Branch is collecting additional candidate DRs for the release. The period for identifying DRs continues until July 16. Regular deployment is expected to begin September 2, 2008.

OB9: The PIT phase continues through June 30. The initial install on the HQ test system NHDA is scheduled to be completed today. Forecaster testing during the PIT phase is planned for June 17-20. Regular deployment is expected to begin around January 21, 2009.
 - c. Status of FFMP-A (Mary Mullusky): There are a total of 56 WFOs that have completed the FFMP small basin processing through Tier 1 and their files now reside on AWIPS. Regional

reports indicate the total number of WFOs is at 81. It is possible that some sites are not downloading the small basin shapefiles into the proper place in the AWIPS system which explains the discrepancy. Mary said that Ami Arthur is looking into the issue and making sure the sites place their files in the proper place on the AWIPS system. **[Editor's note: As of May 28, there are a total of 72 WFOs that have completed through tier 1.]**

d. Status of AWIPS II (Ronla Henry): We are working on TO9. The proposal for TO10 is due in this Friday (May 30) and we will begin its review. Next week there will be a Technical Exchange meeting with the National Core Local Applications Development Team. Subsequently, the team will talk to Raytheon on how to migrate local applications to the new system.

e. OB8.2 WarnGen Service Backup Issue (Mike Rega): At both OB8.2 and OB8.3 sites, many WFOs have WarnGen configuration errors that can affect service backup use. Many WFOs have made the required changes. Site MQT at Marquette, MI had problems with the marine changes and could not issue marine warnings. The SST is trying to find out how extensive the problem is and cannot duplicate the problem here at WSH. Jim Ramer was able to duplicate the marine problem and he corrected it for site MQT. The SST will keep the Regional Focal Points up on any more problems that come up in this area.

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

Alaska Region: nothing significant to report.

Central Region: nothing significant to report.

Eastern Region: nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: We are working to get site GUM (Guam) up to OB8.2.1 and then to OB8.2.1.1.

Southern Region: nothing significant to report.

GSD: Paul Schultz asked to speak to the group concerning probability forecasting. OAR is funding a project to develop tools for probability forecasting in AWIPS II. We would like one or two representatives from each region to come to Boulder in August for a workshop. We will send an e-mail to the region's SSD chiefs with more information. This would be at no cost to the regional offices.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We are developing the WES 8.3 for OB8.3. There is a challenge with FFMP-A but we are working through it. We will start a beta test for the WES 8.3 in a few days. We are also working on training for OB8.3.

NRC: nothing significant to report.

NCEP: nothing significant to report.

Shannon White: This is a reminder that all tropical sites should get OB8.2.1.1 installed before next week.

Sanford Garrard: The GFE pre-releases were posted yesterday. Concerning the new Linux LDAD server replacement, there are 8 sites still in mode A and they need to switch over very soon. There are still 7 sites on OB8.2 and they need to upgrade to OB8.2.1 before they can install upcoming OB8.3.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 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.