

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 271 (April 14, 2010)

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, April 14, 2010, 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; **WRH**: Ulysses Davis; **CRH**: Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Duane Carpenter; **GSD**: (did not call in); **NCEP**: (did not call in); **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach, Jim Totusek, Wes Craven; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig, Darrel Kingfield; **NCF**: John Seeger; **NRC**: (did not call in); **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: Shannon White;

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

a. Status of Upcoming Software Releases:

ThreadEx Release: We installed the beta at site GSP yesterday and no issues were reported with the installation. The NCF admin message was issued on April 5, 12, and again on April 19 and April 20, the start of deployment.

OB9.2.4: We are in the second week of beta testing and there are no issues so far reported. The readiness review will be held on April 22 and deployment will begin using a DVD on May 5. Tropical sites will begin installing between May 5-19 and the remainder of the sites after May 20.

OB9.2.5: We will install it on the NMTW soon. We plan on having a one week SWIT period. The beta sites will be some OB9.2.4 sites. The readiness review is scheduled for April 29. The deployment will be a NCF post install step after a site performs their OB9.2.4 DVD install.

OB9.2.6: The software development is underway. Deployment is projected to start on June 14. The installation will be using a DVD.

GOES 13 Activation: GOES 13 is scheduled to replace GOES 12 as the GOES East satellite today at 2:34PM EDT. GOES 13 will drift into its final location (75 degrees west longitude) by April 26. Since the affected NDM file contains the final location information for GOES 13, the Fog Monitor fog detection code will not correctly identify fog in the GOES East visible imagery between activation on April 14 and final position on April 26. The NDM file and instructions will be provided for noaa1 download prior to GOES-13 arriving at its target on April 14th.

Security Patch Release: It contains the security patches from the December and March scans. A DVD installation disk will be provided to sites in late June.

b. Status of AWIPS migration Activities: We received DR9 last week and it contained over 200

DRs. After further review, we realized that over 100 of the DRs had been contained in previous releases so there are only 100 or so new DRs contained in DR9. A FIT was conducted last week on the Raytheon test beds and 80 new DRs were discovered. We had an RFC person come here at headquarters and he analyzed our requirements for a future RFC FIT.

Tim Hopkins and Ed Mandel briefed the IWT last week on a draft plan for schedule modifications. We will have DR drops and FITs into the July time frame. We plan on having the system OT&E extend into the next Spring time frame.

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

Alaska Region: Last week we completed the both sides of the Xyplex terminal server upgrades. We also installed DR9 on the SCAT system.

Central Region: We are pleased that the NCF is passing onto the contractor the WarnGen slowdown issue trouble tickets. The SST reports they are being cc:ed and Mike Moss is assisting with working on the problem.

Eastern Region: We tested OB9.2.4 last week, otherwise, nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: Site GUM will be able to install OB9.2.4 early next week.

Southern Region: Eric was concerned about the WarnGen slowdowns at the Central region sites. Chris Marshall and Mike Moss stated that they are looking into the issue and are making some progress in identifying the problem. To date, the problem has been reported at only a few sites in the Central region.

Eric raised concerns about the LX OT&E logouts/slowness status. The response provided by Jim Lane of OS&T was the LX slowness appears to be resolved. The LX spontaneous logouts may be resolved but not closed yet. We may try a new driver next week.

Eric asked what is the SCAT status now that PX servers are failing and DX replacement is delayed? What should sites do? How many old spares are left? Jim Lane responded that there were about 20 old PX spares left at NLSC. NLSC was supposed to have saved them and not exceeded them at Jim's request. Sites should order the legacy 2650 servers from NLSC until they are replaced with the 2850 servers.

Western Region: We recently installed DR9 on our SCAT system. Last week we completed the xyplex upgrade. Concerning hardware, sites have done their annual inventory and some have returned workstations to NRC. How can they rectify their site property lists? After some discussion, it was suggested that the regional focal points ask their SOD chiefs to ask Al Wissman via e-mail the same question and wait for further guidance from the WSH engineering personnel.

GSD: (did not call in)

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We are providing general support for the recent release of WES 9.2. There are 25 sites out of 130 total that have installed WES 9.2. We are looking to obtain OB9.2.4 and OB9.2.5 to bundle them into the WES. After reviewing DR9, we are working on submitting before the cutoff date the last remaining TTRs. We are working on variance training for the preliminary version of variances overview for the system OT&E.

NRC: (did not call in)

NCEP: (did not call in)

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2010. 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.