

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 273 (May 12, 2010)

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, May 12, 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**: Cindy Scott; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Ulysses Davis; **CRH**: Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Eric Lau; **GSD**: (did not call in); **NCEP**: (did not call in); **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach, Jim Totusek, Wes Craven; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig; **NRC**: Heiko Crowe; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: (did not call in);

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

a. Status of Upcoming Software Releases:

OB9.2.5: This is a special release which includes OB9.2.4. It is now in deployment. The regional focal points are scheduling OB9.2.4 on the calendar. The NCF will install the OB9.2.5 release as soon as the site completes the OB9.2.4 release.

OB9.2.6: We are now in the SWIT phase. Installation has been completed on the HQ system NMTW. The next install will be Central Region Headquarters tomorrow. The readiness review is planned for May 26. Deployment is projected to start on May 27. The install will be performed by the NCF and will not impact site operations.

OB9.2.7: This release is to provide security updates based on the December and March scans. SWIT activities are planned to begin after the OB9.2.6 readiness review. The installation includes a DVD and mod note. The readiness review is slated for June 14. Deployment is projected to start on July 12.

OB9.2.8: Software development continues. The release is planned to be combined with OB9.2.7 with the readiness review on July 1 and the deployment projected to start on July 12.

b. Status of AWIPS Migration Activities: The OS&T conducted a preliminary readiness review (PRR) last Friday to end the TO11. We needed to adjust the Fixed Before System OT&E (FBSO) DRs and as a result we were able to pass TO11 at the Monday (May 10) System Test Readiness Review (STRR). It was agreed to enter the system OT&E. The new STRR set up 13 weeks for phase 1. OS&T will get OPS more involved with monthly software releases and FITs. The test group consisting of Tom Piper, Bill Gery, and John Tatum will look at the FITs and how to test the software and see if the forecasters can do more DR closures. Maybe the UTT sites can get more involved and get the number of DRs down by August to a manageable number. After 13 weeks, the phase 2 of the OT&E will kick in and conclude by February of

2011. The field portion of the OT&E will begin at that time. We are looking at numerous task orders post TO11 and dealing with a lot of topics including SCAT support.

c. Hardware Update Status: Sanford Garrard gave the group a brief update on some hardware projects:

DX1/DX2 Refresh and Powervault Refresh: An issue has been discovered on NHOR with slow database inserts/updates. Engineers are troubleshooting to narrow down the cause of the problem. Assuming the NHOR issue can be resolved this week, OT&E is projected to begin May 17 with the installation at BCQ. Full deployment is currently projected to begin in early August.

DX3/DX4 Refresh: The next Kit Proof installation, which is planned for NHOR, has been postponed until the DX1/DX2/PV issue can be resolved. Full deployment is currently projected to begin in late August.

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

Alaska Region: We are continuing with our localization efforts, otherwise, nothing significant to report.

Central Region: nothing significant to report.

Eastern Region: nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: Site HFO is part of the LX workstation refresh project. Last week they encountered three system logouts (SLOs). They are encouraged to call in a trouble ticket to the NCF whenever this occurs. Sanford Garrard indicated that site STO has encountered the same problem with SLOs and WSH is working with the site to remedy the situation.

Southern Region: We cannot keep DR11 running on our SCAT system and are working the issue.

Western Region: We installed DR11 this past Monday. We installed the new LAN switch last week.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We are beta testing the WES update with the OB9.2.5 SCAN patch update. This will soon go out to the WES list after we finish the beta testing. We installed DR11 recently and it is up and running and we are testing out new items such as the Interactive Skew-T. We are also working on variance training and have a draft version of the first variance by June for the next FIT.

NRC: nothing significant to report.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26, 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.