

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 279 (August 4, 2010)

1. Purpose: A regularly scheduled meeting of the RACC was held from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EDT in Room 10300 on Wednesday, August 4, 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**: (did not call in); **PRH**: Vuong Tang; **GSD**: Woody Roberts; **NCEP**: (did not call in); **NWSTC**: (did not call in); **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Darrel Kingfield; **NRC**: Heiko Crowe; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: (did not call in);

Other Participants: Art Thomas, Berry Azeem, Sanford Garard, Will Leverenz, Kevin Woodworth, Jagdish Sharma, Wayne Martin, Frank Lucadamo, Ashley Kells, Jim Stenpeck

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

a. Status of Upcoming AWIPS I Software Releases (Will Leverenz):

OB9.2.9: Installations have been completed on all beta sites. A minor installation script adjustment was made to preserve the workstation specific alarm/alert file, which was unintentionally being modified in the initial beta installations. Beta continues through August 9 with a Readiness Review scheduled for August 10. Deployment is projected to occur the week of August 16. The installation will be performed remotely by the NCF. The installation does require a restart of ingest, so the NCF will coordinate with each site prior to installation.

OB9.2.10: There are 7 DRs in this release. The SWIT is planned to begin August 11. The installation will be performed remotely by the NCF and should not impact operations. Beta starts on August 26 with deployment projected to start on September 13.

OB9.2.11: The release will upgrade the Red Hat operating system from RHEL5u2 to RHEL5u5. The proposed plan of adding the 64 bit OS upgrade to the release will require additional discussion and analysis. The next meeting is tentatively planned for Monday, August 9. Beta testing is planned for the month of October. The content of the OB9.2.11 and OB9.2.12 will be combined into one mod note/installation DVD with deployment projected to begin November 29.

OB9.2.12: This release contains 3 DRs. Deployment is projected to start on November 29.

OB9.2.13: So far this release contains 1 DR. Deployment is projected to start on January 3, 2011.

b. Status of AWIPS Migration Activities (Ashley Kells): We are holding a FIT at Raytheon this week. We tested up to 90 DRs by yesterday and many passed although about a dozen failed. This is in the usual failure rate of 10-15 percent. As of last week, Raytheon was about 303 DRs behind the planned schedule. The TRG met last week and a no confidence vote was done, so we will not go into phase 2 of the OT&E on August 11 as the schedule projected. A new schedule will be developed.

Concerning the new task order with SCAT, we received the new proposal from Raytheon and reviewed it. We are working this Thursday to set up a local apps working group. We will look to see how to migrate areas of software and how things can be improved. We have asked for volunteers from the regions and NCEP to help out and to flush out the local apps governances. We were given a high level review but need a step by step process of accomplishing this.

c. XT Maintenance (Jagdish Sharma): The current XTs are out of warranty but need to be supported for the next 12 to 18 months yet. It is difficult to obtain replacement parts as some manufacturers do not make certain parts anymore. There is a plan to take the video cards from the LX legacy systems that are being disposed and to send them back to NRC. The WSH Engineering Division plans on modifying Mod Note 58, Attachment F to reflect this change. Also, please keep the old mice on site.

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

Alaska Region: (did not call in)

Central Region: Site PUB installed OB9.2.8 on July 28. They installed two new LX workstations and one was the LX2. We had weather, the performance was bad and the workstations locked up. Mike Moss of the SST is looking into the situation for us.

Eastern Region: We are waiting for R1G1-3 to come out. As part of the OT&E, we have scheduled the DX3/4 refresh in a few weeks. We have most of our Eastern region sites scheduled for upcoming new software and hardware.

Pacific Region: We installed OB9.2.9 at Guam but the site discovered that they could not issue coastal flood warnings. Kevin Woodworth of OCWWS is trying to get a fix into OB9.2.10 for Guam's situation.

Southern Region: We are waiting for the stability of the NAS to improve. One of our sites reported a NAS locking up and they could not reboot. Otherwise, nothing significant to report.

Western Region: We are waiting for R1G1-3, otherwise, nothing significant to report

GSD: We are in the process of downloading R1G1-3 today.

NWSTC: (did not call in)

Warning Decision Training Branch: We are performing national support of the implementation of the WES9.2 We are awaiting the proposed plan of adding the 64 bit OS upgrade to the OB9.2.11 release which will require additional discussion and analysis. The next meeting is tentatively planned for next Monday, August 9. On the AWIPS II side, we had R1G1-2 installed the other day and are performing the upgrade to R1G1-3 today.

NRC: nothing significant to report.

NCEP: (did not call in)

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, August18, 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.