

## RACC Meeting Minutes No. 220 (March 19, 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, March 19, 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, Cindy Scott; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Mark Mollner; **CRH**: Bill Gery; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: Shannon White; **HSD**: Randy Rieman; **NCF**: John Seeger; **OCWWS**: Kevin Woodworth

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

a. Status of Alpha and Beta Testing OB3: We are moving along with OB8.3 and the beta readiness review is scheduled for tomorrow, March 20. If all goes well for the review, we will have the first beta teleconference call with the regions and beta sites next Monday (March 24). The first WFO beta site is scheduled for April 2 and the first RFC beta site is scheduled for April 9. Concerning OB8.2.1, the mod note will be signed today and the e-mail will go out later today or tomorrow. We will begin deployment of the maintenance release on Monday, March 24. Sites do not need to schedule the maintenance release on the Oracle calendar.

b. Status of Upcoming Software Releases:

*OB8.3.1*: The AWIPS Support Branch is collecting candidate DRs for the release. The initial review of candidates will occur on March 20. The period for identifying DRs continues until July 16. Regular deployment is expected to begin around August 25, 2008.

*OB9*: The workset has been created and developers can begin checking in code. The Pre-Integration Test (PIT) phase is scheduled to begin May 6. Forecaster testing during the PIT phase is planned for June 17-20. Regular deployment is expected to begin around January 5, 2009.

*LDAD Server Replacement*: All sites are in the process of shifting LDAD operations from the old HP to the new Linux servers. The target completion date is March 31.

c. Changes to AWIPS Firewall Policy: The CIO office has sent out a draft of the new AWIPS firewall policy for review. One of the changes implies that the ITO's at the sites will not have access to review logs or troubleshoot problems with the new configuration. This change affects the ITO's duties and course material presented by the Training Center. John Gordon was invited to explain the changes in policy but he was unable to make it and will come to the next RACC on April 2. Olga will collect any comments on the draft and will forward them to John Gordon. Several focal points stated that they did not receive the draft of policy changes. The draft that was recently issued is an attachment to these minutes and is titled "Draft AWIPS FW Policy 20080303."

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

Alaska Region: We are working on getting all of our sites into Mode B for the LDAD server replacement and shifting the LDAD operations from the old HP to the new Linux servers by March 31. Also, site VRH is scheduled to install beta OB8.3 on April 1.

Central Region: We are in the process of shifting at all our sites the LDAD operations from the old HP to the new Linux servers by March 31. We are also trying to get the new FFMP Advanced shapefiles to our WFOs.

Eastern Region: We are planning on installing the new beta OB8.3 on our headquarter's system next Thursday (March 27). We plan on installing maintenance release OB8.2.1 before that date.

Southern Region: We need to get OB8.2.1 to all sites that surround a beta OB8.3 site. We are also working on getting those OB8.3 WFOs the new FFMP files.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

Shannon White: The service backup issue related to the NFS mount on DX4 requiring a reboot was brought up at today's meeting. A question was asked if any DRs were written and nobody could state for sure if any DRs were written. Karen Tepera of Raytheon took the action to find out more information on this topic. [Editor's Note: Keren Tepera reported that DR 20070 was written today, referencing TT 291730 that described the work around. The Raytheon ASM and the ENV teams have been trying to identify the root cause and are having a challenge catching the problem before the DX is rebooted. More information will be forwarded when it's available.]

Also, information about the 8.2 and 8.2.1 WarnGen forecaster training was placed on the WarnGen list server so as many forecasters as possible can get the training.

**The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, April 2, 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.**