

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 224 (May 14, 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 14, 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**: Cindy Scott; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Sheila Deiotte; **CRH**: Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Alan Samori; **GSD**: Joanne Edwards; **NCEP**: Joe Byerly; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach, Jim Totusek, Heather Galan; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig, Shannon Key; **NRC**: Jeff Sickles
3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:

- a. Status of AWIPS II (Ronla Henry): We received the TO9 plan and reviewed it and worked up some comments on it. We conducted 2 technical interchange meetings (TIM). One of the TIMs was held in Portland, OR, associated with hydro and RFC software. The second TIM was an IFPS and GFE TIM and it had wide participation throughout the NWS. The IV&V testing activity for TO8 is ongoing and we are exchanging trouble tickets with Raytheon and working on any issues. We have also spun up a government team to work on local applications issues.
- b. Status of Beta Testing of OB8.3 (Frank Lucadamo): We are continuing testing and the SyAT begins next week. Our last beta site WFO State College, PA (CTP) is installing on May 28.

The OB8.2.1.1 Readiness Review will occur tomorrow (May 15). Deployment is expected to begin on May 19 and WFOs will install in pairs for service backup reasons. The mod note is expected to be signed by this Friday.

- c. Status of Upcoming Software Releases (Matt Kensey):

OB8.3: There are a few open trouble tickets but no “show stoppers.” The SyAT is scheduled for next week and the SVR will be held on June 6.

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

OB9: The first code check in deadline is next week for placing the software on the NHDA system for the upcoming PIT. The PIT is scheduled for June 17-20.

- d. OB8.2 WarnGen Service Backup (Mike Rega): OB8.2 has removed the partial backup WarnGen function that issued products for a partial area of an adjacent CWA. But, OB8.2 now has full backup for an entire area of a CWA (i.e. Sister-Sister Backup Pairs). The SST ran diagnostic scripts and found that not all WFOs are configured correctly to do this. Mike has written instructions on how to correctly configure this function and the instructions will be sent

to select WFOs, posted on the SST web page, and posted on the AWIPS list server.

e. AWIPS II Test Case Point of Contact Opportunity (John Tatum): John Tatum is the AWIPS II Test Case Manager and is working in the AWIPS Support Branch of OPS. John is working on putting together a list of field focal points to assist in creating test cases. John plans on sending to the Regional Focal Points asking for such assistance and will ask the Regional Focal Points to scrub a list of external interfaces for AWIPS to make sure we have a complete list. Mike Magsig of the WTDB asked to be involved and John accepted his offer.

f. LDM Software Upgrade for LDAD (Wayne Martin): When the Linux LDAD systems were deployed, the LDM software was included in the installation. This was done to standardize the technical support for LDM. All Linux LDAD systems are running the same version of LDM and all Linux LDAD systems have the same basic configuration of LDM.

Currently all Linux LDAD systems are running LDM version 6.6.1. When the Linux LDM software was deployed, an upgrade from LDM version 6.6.1 to version 6.6.4 was scheduled for OB8.3. This scheduled upgrade for LDM was to ensure that the NWS kept current with the version of LDM supported by Unidata. This was done so that the NWS would not be in the position we were in with the HP LDAD systems in which we were running a very old version of LDM that never got upgraded. OB8.3 did not install LDM version 6.6.4 on the Linux LDAD systems. OB8.3 did install LDM version 6.6.4 on the AWIPS servers but OB8.3 did not install LDM version 6.6.4 on the Linux LDAD servers. The next opportunity to upgrade the LDM software will be OB9. In order to include an LDM upgrade in OB9, a Baseline Change Request (BCR) must be submitted. Wayne Martin and John Tatum will submit the BCR but before submitting this BCR, we need to ensure that all NWS users of LDM approve the upgrade. The BCR will request that LDM be upgraded to the current version, LDM version 6.6.5. By the May 28 RACC meeting, all Regional AWIPS Focal Points should be prepared to either approve or disapprove the OB9 LDM BCR. To help the Focal Points in making the decision, the changes from LDM version 6.6.1 to LDM version 6.6.5 have been included in the final pages of this presentation (see attachment to these minutes.).

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

Alaska Region: We had some recent WarnGen issues with VTEC based products dealing with clearing, cancelling and correcting warnings. Fairbanks has several trouble tickets open, especially DR 20195 (GFE: VTECPartners.py needs update and correction). Mike Rega took the action to look into this trouble ticket.

Central Region: We have issues with WarnGen at Goodland with warnings on different time zones. The site is on OB8.2.1. It was reported that Marquette and Midland also have seen the problem. Also, an FYI in that Greg added new TDWRs but Wichita radar is not showing up. He will need to download new shapefiles off NOAA1 to get these added correctly to AWIPS.

Eastern Region: nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: nothing significant to report.

Southern Region: We recently added a new generator to the power supply in our building and we needed to power down and power up AWIPS several times. We made some changes to the OB8.3 SMM document because of this action. We will pass the changes to the SMM to Kevin Johnson and Frank Lucadamo.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

GSD: nothing significant to report.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We received beta 7 of OB8.3 and are working it into the WES 8.3 development. We should wrap up next week after a short review. We will get the WES 8.3 out with OB8.3 before the June release of OB8.3. We are investigating the case playback and data management parts of our WES development. Some folks here are working to get AWIPS II to work in real time data displays.

NRC: With checking the hard drives on the LDAD servers, the smart start CD won't pick up the hard drives. One must use the HP diagnostics on the LX boxes. John Seeger of the NCF took the action item to send procedures for starting LDAD to the NRC and the Training Center.

NCEP: nothing significant to report.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 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.