

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 230 (August 6, 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, August 6, 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: **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Sheila Deiotte; **CRH**: Bill Gery; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Alan Samori, Gloria Fletcher; **GSD**: Joanne Edwards; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach, Jim Totusek, Heather Galan; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig, Shannon Key, Dale Morris; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: Shannon White;

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

a. Status of Upcoming Software Releases (Matt Kensey):

OB8.3.1: We are in the middle of SWIT and testing continues on the Raytheon test beds. There are a total of 52 DRs included in the maintenance release. An installation schedule is now available. WFO beta sites will be selected over the next few weeks and they will install on September 8-9. Regular deployment is currently projected to begin around September 29.

OB9: This release is the last planned major release for the current AWIPS architecture. The release includes higher resolution shapefiles, operational wave modeling for the Great Lakes, FFMPA improvements, integrating some GFE Smart Tools, high resolution precipitation nowcaster, and formatting of NWS alert messages in CAP. Developers are checking in code and the test team is concentrating on testing baseline test cases and closing DRs. The alpha version of the GFE pre-release is scheduled to be posted on August 18. The alpha of OB9 is scheduled to begin on September 2. The alpha installation schedule is available (TBDW on 9/2, NMTR on 9/5, BCQ on 9/10, and EHU on 9/17). Forecasters are scheduled to test the software at BCQ September 15-19. Regular deployment is projected to begin around February 9, 2009.

LDAD Repartitioning: Various logical volumes (lvol) in volume group VG00 have been reaching 100% of capacity. A resizing is needed to avoid further full partitions and to alleviate the currently bloated ones. It was initially planned to be put in the OB8.3.1 maintenance release, but it was decided to make this a separate project, since the changes are not dependent on the AWIPS software release. Script development and initial testing on the Raytheon test beds is planned for August 11-22. The installation schedule is now available. The readiness review is planned for September 19 with regular deployment projected to begin around September 29.

GFE Smart Tools Tiger Team Release: There are 5 tools ready to go for this release to be placed in OB9. It is ready to be posted to the Jboss server.

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

Alaska Region: Will we need to purchase with our own regional funds some additional computers in order to migrate the local applications over to AWIPS II? We have run out of PCs to do so and will Weather Service Headquarters (WSH) be able to fund such a procurement? The response was a recommendation was made and the AWIPS Program Office is considering the request. We may know more at the next RACC call.

Central Region: nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: We had an OB8.3 WarnGen problem where the time stamp was incorrectly using UTC instead of the local time. Sites HFO and GUM have written their own fixes for the problem but an official baseline fix is needed. Sanford replied that the DR for this problem was recently written and an ATAN would be sent to the sites ASAP.

Southern Region: The NLSC has informed the regions that whenever a site needs a replacement for an AWIPS monitor, the site will be charged out of their budget. The sites do not have this money in their local budgets and this can be a problem in the future. Eric has stated that he did not get satisfactory answers from the NLSC nor from the Engineering Division at WSH. John Tatum took the action item to look into the matter further. John asked Eric to send him all the recent e-mail threads concerning the situation. **An update to the Southern Region concerns about replacing AWIPS monitors at sites:** John Tatum has completed the action item to look into this matter, and the AWIPS Program Office is coordinating with the NLSC to find the best resolution.

There was also some discussion on a recent RC request to add memory to the RAX servers in the Central Region. The AWIPS Support Branch (OPS21) will take a look into the issue.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

GSD: nothing significant to report.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We are working on the training development for WES OB9 and OB9. We will coordinate the release of WES OB9 with the beta release of OB9 in October.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 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.