

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 237 (November 12, 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, November 12, 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: **WRH**: Sheila Deiotte; **ARH**: Joe Rubel, Phil Dutton; **PRH**: Eric Lau; **GSD**: Joanne Edwards; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach, Jim Totusek; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig, Shannon Key, Dale Morris, Darrel Kingfield; **NRC**: Jeff Sickles; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: Shannon White; **NHOR**: Randy Rieman; **NCF**: John Seeger

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

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

OB8.3.2: This release has two WarnGen DRs and a GFE DR incorporated into the maintenance release. We will begin the SIT testing on November 17 (next Monday) and the beta is planned to begin on December 1. The readiness review is planned for December 15.

OB9: There are currently 16 open DRs in the release. The installation was successfully completed at WFO MFL and RFC RSA over the past week. The next installations are planned for WFO CLE on Thursday (Nov. 13) and at WFOs GJT and DTX on the following Tuesday (November 18). The next beta call is planned for Monday, November 17 at 2 pm EST. Regular deployment is projected to begin around February 9, 2009.

OB9.1: This is a system operating upgrade to RHEL5.2 and we are currently putting together the packages.

b. Upgrade to RHEL5.2, including the freeware (Andrew Lare): Andrew has prepared two documents for the regional focal points to review. One document is a list of rpms that are not planned to be installed as part of the upgrade to RHEL5.2. The other document is a list of the freeware slated for OB9.1. For both documents, he is looking for feedback as to problems with the slated freeware versions or with the list of rpms that will not be installed. Andrew asked the regional focal points to review these documents and several provided feedback to him. The main feedback point was not to remove the GNOME Software development libraries from the upgrade to RHEL5.2. Andrew will take this feedback back to the SwEG for further discussion.

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

Alaska Region: nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: We are installing OB9 today and should be finished by tonight.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

GSD: There is a project to incorporate FAA weather radar (ARSR-4 and ASR-11) into the AWIPS system in the coming months. OB9 will have the required software to ingest this new data. There are three sites (SEW, CLE, BIS) which are beta sites for this project. Joanne Edwards will ask if Mike Istok could give a brief presentation on this topic at the next RACC call. Mike Magsg from the WDTB reported that they have developed ARSR-4 training modules and will be ready for review in a week or so and we will ask the GSD and Mike Istok to review these training modules. We plan on having the on-line training available by November 24.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: nothing significant to report.

NRC: nothing significant to report.

Shannon White: The OB9 GFE training material is out there for the focal points to review. It is important that the beta sites look this over since there is a lot of changes to the text formatters. The WDTB will be issuing GFE and WarnGen training for OB9 by the end of the month for all forecasters.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, December 10, 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.