

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 255 (August 19, 2009)

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 19, 2009, 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**: Bill Gery, Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Bill Ward; **GSD**: Carl Bullock; **NCEP**: Joe Byerly; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach; **ROC**: Tim Crum; **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: Shannon White;

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

a. Status of Upcoming Software Releases:

OB9.1: The release will update the operating system from RedHat Enterprise Linux 4 (RHEL4.2) to RHEL5.2. The release was approved for initial deployment beginning August 31. The mod note has been sent for final routing and should be posted on August 28. The DVD/CD shipments will begin shipping on August 24 with most sites expected to receive the media between August 26 and August 31. One note is the problem with the CollIDB decoder which occurred at some beta sites. Once deployment begins, if 10 sites have this problem and it pops up, we will halt deployment until the problem is solved. We are being proactive to see if the problem can be solved even before deployment begins.

OB9.2: Initial installation on the HQ test system NHDA was completed on August 10. The next install is planned for the Raytheon Test System TBDW on August 20. SWIT is currently scheduled to begin around August 24 and Beta is scheduled to begin October 12. Regular deployment is currently scheduled to begin November 9.

b. AWIPS Login Limit/Account Lock Out (DR# 13035): The new password policy requires a login retry limit and lockout period. It was previously implemented via DR 13035. It was then inadvertently removed with the previous Red Hat upgrade. This has been re-implemented in the OB9.1 release. After three failed login attempts, the user account will be locked out for one minute. No notification to the user is made. Any login attempt will simply fail for the duration of the minute. This does not affect root.

c. Status of June 24 AWIPS Radar Ingest and Dissemination Changes: At the June 24 RACC Wayne Martin discussed 3 AWIPS configuration file changes associated with WSR-88D RPG Build 11. Change #1 is the Severe Weather Probability (SWP) radar product 47 which is no longer generated in RPG Build 11. There are changes that needed to be made and are detailed in those previous minutes. Change #2 is the Combined Shear (CS) radar product 87 which is no longer generated in RPG Build 11. If AWIPS systems have the CS product 87 in their local RPS

lists, this product should be removed from the local RPS list in order to make room in the RPS list for other products that are produced by the RPG. Change #3 is the fix dissemination problem with the Storm Relative Mean (SRM) Radial Velocity product 56. When a WSR-88D radar is in VCP31 or VCP32, AWIPS requests the SRM product 56 for the 0.5, 1.5, 2.5 and 3.5 elevations but AWIPS only transmits the 2 lower elevations (0.5 and 1.5) to the NCF. We need to correct SRM product 56 errors in the AWIPS prodList.txt file so that AWIPS will properly disseminate all 4 elevations of this product to the NCF.

Wayne Martin took the action to install the updated rps-RPGOP-tcp.storm file and prodList.txt files at all AWIPS systems. This fixed changes 1 and 3. Please refer to the Power Point file titled "Status of June 24 AWIPS Radar Ingest and Dissemination Changes" for more detailed information.

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

Alaska Region: nothing significant to report.

Central Region: nothing significant to report.

Eastern Region: nothing significant to report.

Pacific Region: The WFO at Guam was hit by lightning on August 15 and they are still recovering. We ordered a LX1 for them. We installed OB9.1 on our headquarters' system yesterday and things went well.

Southern Region: When will the latest hardware update be issued? Jim Lane responded that something will be coming out from him by the end of the week.

Western Region: We did the LDAD firewall refresh on Monday and things went well. We need to update the servers for the security RPMs for Red Hat 5 and to be ready for the deployment of OB9.1.

What is the latest on the bar code consolidation for AWIPS property? Eric Howieson says that on a conference call with WSH, Al Wissman stated the work has been officially approved by NOAA and is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

GSD: nothing significant to report.

NWSTC: We completed the firewall OT&E for the NTCB and NTCC systems today and things went well.

NCEP: nothing significant to report.

James Washington (NCF): While doing the NOAA router upgrades, we failed to erase the configuration files on the routers since it was not stated in the mod note. The NCF will contact

each site and complete this action as soon as possible. Jim Lane took the action to check/update the mod notes for the erasing of files on both the routers and the LDAD firewall.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2009. 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.