

## RACC Meeting Minutes No. 256 (September 2, 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, September 2, 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**: Joshua Watson, Cindy Scott; **SRH**: (did not call in); **WRH**: Sheila Deiotte; **CRH**: Bill Gery; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: (did not call in); **GSD**: (did not call in); **NCEP**: Joe Byerly; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig; **NRC**: (did not call in); **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*: Deployment has begun as all sites have received their DVD/CDs. Some installs will begin next week. The CollDB decoder problem has not been seen in over a week. The agreement was that if 10 sites experienced problems with it, then we would postpone deployment until a fix was put into place for the problem. There is a post install step after OB9.1 is installed whereby enhanced logging is put in place at a site for the CollDB decoder problem.

*OB9.2*: We are into the third week of SWIT on the one Raytheon system. We are installing the RFC software on TBDW today. We will install OB9.2 on NMTW on September 17. The readiness review is scheduled for October 29.

b. AWIPS Release Documentation: Gayle Blizzard from Raytheon spoke on this topic. She prepared and distributed a Power Point slide file titled "Release Documentation\_RACC Presentation\_02Sep2009." This file is also attached to these minutes. Basically, the SMS Team at Raytheon has proposed to increase the frequency of releases per year and thus the documentation will need to change. Gayle is asking the focal points on the call to assist the team in finding the best method to obtain input from the field and within NWS on current and proposed uses for AWIPS document deliverables. Input is requested from the end users to maximize the effectiveness of the AWIPS documentation. Gayle and Sanford Garrard would like to get this input by the end of October.

A few ideas were brought forth from the group. The Eastern region suggested that instead of the 4 documents being placed on the web site as PDF files, why not be on a managed wiki page? The consensus was that this suggestion was reasonable. The WDTB would like to get more involved in updating the release notes since those will be issued more frequently and require quicker turnarounds. Having them on a wiki page sounded good to them.

c. Password Change for NOAA1 ftpawips Account: Wayne Martin stated that he was informed recently that the password for the ftp AWIPS account on NOAA1 will be changed on September

8. The same password has been in use for several years now but the policy is to change it every 90 days. There are several hundred users that use the ftp account on NOAA1 and the problem is getting the new password to all these users in a timely and secure fashion. The group bantered around several ideas and the best one seemed to be to set up the secure shell keys and from your AWIPS system, one can then get into the account without knowing the new password. Wayne took the action to ask for a temporary waiver of the deadline date as he needs to get the details in order since there are only 2 more working days to implement this change since the long holiday weekend is coming up.

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

Alaska Region: We installed the firewall on our headquarters' system last week and things went well. We are scheduling OB9.1 in the region and plan on installing it on our headquarters' system next week.

Central Region: We installed the firewall at Pleasant Hill and things went well. We are waiting for the new xyplex on our headquarters' system. We are also scheduling our sites for OB9.1.

Eastern Region: We installed the new firewall on our headquarters' system and things went well. We are also scheduling our sites for OB9.1.

Western Region: Shelia asked James Washington of the NCF about the progress of wiping out the configuration information on the old routers at sites. James stated the count is up to 58 sites that the NCF has assisted with doing this action and things are progressing well.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We are working on OB9.1 and getting the operating system upgrade going for the WES workstation. We plan on integrating OB9.1 and OB9.2 on the WES workstation in the next release of the WES system coming in January of 2010.

NCEP: nothing significant to report.

**The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 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.**