

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 257 (September 16, 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 16, 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; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Sheila Deiotte; **CRH**: Bill Gery, Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Joe Rubel; **PRH**: Eric Lau; **GSD**: (did not call in); **NCEP**: Joe Byerly; **NWSTC**: Jim Totusek, Wes Craven; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Mike Magsig, Darrel Kingfield; **ROC**: (did not call in); **NRC**: (did not call in); **Forecast Decision Training Branch**: (did not call in);

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

a. Status of Upcoming Software Releases:

OB9.1: We are now into the third week of deployment. There are 19 sites scheduled to install the release this week. We have added the enhanced CollDB decoder logging to each site that has already installed it and to the upcoming scheduled sites. We have not seen any hangs yet. Frank Lucadamo reports the mod note has been updated for the removing of the NA boxes from the LX workstations variable and should be now posted.

OB9.2: We are into the third week of SWIT testing and are on schedule to closing DRs and test cases. Shannon White and 4 or 5 forecasters are coming into town next week to perform DR testing, regression and applications testing. Our next install will be on the NMTW system tomorrow.

Sanford Garrard: We need to have some OB9.2 beta conference calls in the month of October. We normally have had these calls with the regional focal points and the beta sites on Monday afternoons at 2 PM. However, the upcoming Columbus Day holiday on October 12 will mess up this recurring rotation. We are proposing on having these calls on Wednesday afternoons. On the Wednesdays that the RACC calls are also scheduled, we could combine the calls. After some discussion, the consensus was to schedule the beta conference calls at 2:30 PM EDT on every Wednesday in the month of October. The date that the RACC calls are scheduled would continue to be at 2 PM EDT. Care would be taken to not have the RACC call spill over much past 2:30 PM. Chris Marshall will check with the appropriate Raytheon people to see if they are in agreement with this arrangement. If so, official notices will be sent out scheduling these beta calls.

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

Alaska Region: Last week we installed OB9.1 on our headquarters system. We had a slowdown on the ARD for the CWSU and are not sure if it's OB9.1 related.

Central Region: So far our OB9.1 installs are going well. A few of our sites have done the firewalls for the LDAD. We are part way with getting the SCAT up on our headquarters system.

Eastern Region: We need to move a few OB9.1 installs that were scheduled next week to other dates because of the impending G-20 summit meeting. Concerning the AWIPS Migration, we are working on attempting to make it so we don't have the processing latency that was seen with the gridded data coming across by filtering some of the data across the SBN. We got the latency down to about 20 minutes but we need to look at the WMO headers to see if we can slice more off.

Pacific Region: nothing significant to report.

Southern Region: Some beta sites have complained to Eric that some of their comments were not incorporated into the mod notes and no explanation was given as to why not. Eric would like to know if any comments do not make it into the mod note, how do we respond back to the beta sites as they can get discouraged. Jim Lane of the OS&T office took the action to work with the other OT&E people in the office on how to provide feedback to the beta test sites.

Also, what is the situation with the NOAA1 ftpawips password changes? Wayne Martin responded by saying they will have a meeting on Thursday to discuss the Secure Shell encryption keys proposal to get into the NOAA1 ftwawips account. Wayne will send out more information on this topic to the regional focal points by the end of this week.

What is the latest update on the xyplex replacement? Jim Lane responded in that he recently talked to Raytheon and there is no change at this time. However, Jim feels this may get resolved in the next few weeks (possibly within a month?).

We installed the SCAT on our headquarters system recently.

Western Region: Shelia had a technical question about the firewall refresh mod note. She said an e-mail recently came out from Ken Stricklett stating there could be a disruption of operations at a site while they were configuring the firewall. She did not see this in the mod note. Jim Lane stated it is in the mod note and John Seeger stated it wouldn't happen in normal situations but the 15 minutes was put in to cover unexpected situations. Other than that, nothing significant to report.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: Concerning the OB9.2 training, we are working on the module for the default color tables. Mike Magsig would like to be involved on any meetings and discussions with OB9.2 so the proper training can be formulated. Concerning the WES, we have OB9.1 working on a test system. We are waiting for the OB9.2 delta to come in so we can integrate it into the WES.

NCEP: nothing significant to report.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 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.