

Weather Event Simulator WES7.2 Overview Training

Warning Decision Training Branch
January 2007

Presentation Details:

Slides: 16

Duration: 00:09:58

Filename: C:\Documents and Settings\tdecker.WDTB\Desktop\WES72\WES72.ppt

Presenter Details:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Bio:

Slide 1

WES7.2 Overview Training

Duration: 00:00:27

Advance mode: By user

Weather Event Simulator WES7.2 Overview Training

Warning Decision Training Branch
January 2007

Notes:

Welcome to the WES7.2 Overview Training. I am Mike Magsig, the WES Program Manager from the WDTB, and I will be joined shortly by Timm Decker, a member of the WDTB WES team. In this short module we will review the recent developments in WES, and we will provide an overview of what is new in version 7.2 of the Weather Event Simulator. This training is intended for all WES Installation Focal Points and the WES Training Focal Points, not general forecasters.

Slide 2

Changes in the Past Six Months

Duration: 00:00:33

Advance mode: By user

Many Changes in the Past Six Months



The slide contains a collage of images related to WES updates. On the left is a screenshot of the GFE (Grid File Editor) interface. In the center is a slide titled 'NOAA's NWS Weather Event Simulator (WES) Implementation and Operations Plan' dated Oct. 5, 2006, with two bullet points: 1.0 Directive: The WES directly supports NWS Instruction 20-101, which specifies that all Weather Forecast Office (WFO) staff with forecast and warning responsibilities complete at least two appropriate WES maintenance courses to the start of each significant weather season. 2.0 WES Purpose: The primary function of the WES capabilities is to... Below this is a URL: <http://wdtb.noaa.gov/tools/wes/admin/WES-IOP-Final.pdf>. On the right are two more slides: 'New Test Case' showing a radar cross-section and 'New WES Ma' showing a keyboard and mouse.

Notes:

There have been many changes in the WES program in the last six months. Some of these include:

- basic GFE functionality including grid creation and product formatting
- OB7.1 AWIPS capabilities, including the volume browser radar cross sections and new all tilts
- a new and more robust WES test case
- an updated WES Implementation and Operations Plan (IOP)
- and a disk image for WES machine replacement that came from a joint development between SR, CR, and WDTB.

Slide 3

WDTB WES Website

Duration: 00:00:11
Advance mode: By user

Review WDTB WES Website to Get Caught Up

- <http://wdtb.noaa.gov/tools/wes/index.htm>



Notes:

If you haven't kept up with the latest changes to the WES, then I suggest checking out the WES website to get caught up.

Slide 4

Better Support and Service

Duration: 00:00:53
Advance mode: By user

Your Feedback an Important Key in WES IOP



- <http://wdtb.noaa.gov/tools/wes/admin/WES-IOP-Final.pdf>

Notes:

Two of the three main keys to the new WES Implementation and Operations Plan are now mostly in place. WDTB now provides centralized WES support for NWS using the new WES info list. To join the WES list please see the WES-IOP-Final.pdf file linked at the bottom of the page.

WDTB has also shipped out the new WES disk image to most of the regions for the new WES replacement machines. The remaining regions will get a disk image when the beta testing at the regional headquarters is complete. The disk image is an essential starting point for support, to insure the new hardware and operating system are configured to minimize problems, particularly the new AWIPS RPM-based freeware installation.

One important step remaining in the new WES IOP is for the WES training focal points and the WES installation focal points to provide feedback in the surveys at the end of this training and in the installation. This will help us to be more responsive to your needs.

Slide 5

WES7.2 Shipped Jan. 18, 2007

Duration: 00:00:52

Advance mode: By user

WES7.2 DVD Shipped Jan. 18, 2007

- Contains AWIPS OB7.2 and WES7.2
- Problems with shipping
 - Contact Timothy.B.Decker@noaa.gov
- Problems with installation
 - wes@infolist.nws.noaa.gov



Notes:

Hi, this is Timm Decker here to tell you about some of the new features of WES7.2. WES7.2 is a typical WES release containing AWIPS OB7.2 and WES7.2. Note this is not a disk image like the WES replacement machine disk image talked about earlier.

WES 7.2 was shipped to all NOAA affiliates on Jan. 18th, 2007. If you have not received your DVD by Jan. 26th, please e-mail me at timothy.b.decker@noaa.gov. Note that we now are releasing WES on DVD rather than CD with this build.

Step by step installation instructions are provided on the DVD. However, if you should run into installation problems, please e-mail the WES info list at wes@infolist.nws.noaa.gov

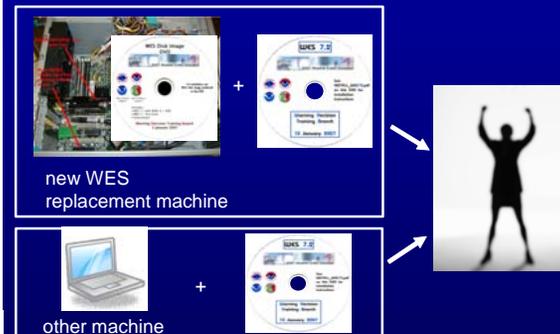
Slide 6

New Replacement WES Machine

Duration: 00:00:32

Advance mode: By user

Install WES Replacement Machine Disk Image on New Machine Before Installing WES7.2



Notes:

NOAA users should install the WES replacement machine disk image on the new machine before installing WES7.2. This should limit problems during installation. Note the disk image contained WES7.1.

If you want to install WES7.2 on a laptop or other machines, all you need is the WES7.2 install disk and a Linux operating system similar to RHE4. WES and AWIPS should continue to run on non baseline configurations, but you are more likely to have to work through AWIPS RPM issues in the installation.

Slide 7

KDE Problems Fixed

Duration: 00:00:24

Advance mode: By user

KDE Problems Fixed with New Disk Image

- Windows no longer freeze using KDE



Notes:

The freezing windows in the KDE desktop are now fixed in the RHE4 OS that was included in the new disk image. The problem went away when Brian Walawender from CRHQ updated the RHE4 with some files from AWIPS. If you have these problems on non-baseline WES machines, try comparing the xorg.conf file with the one sent out with the replacement machine disk image.

Slide 8

GUARDIAN

Duration: 00:00:38

Advance mode: By user

GUARDIAN is a Significant New Addition to WES7.2

- General User Alert Display pANel (GUARDIAN)
 - Handles all AWIPS alerts
 - Started with:
 - enhanced_case_review or
 - in start_simulator running a simulation



- Only known limitation
 - Configuring to run on different monitor having some problems

Notes:

The new AWIPS OB7.2 GUARDIAN is a significant new addition to WES7.2. GUARDIAN handles all the AWIPS alerts, like no data inventory red banner messages from D2D.

You will notice the long skinny GUARDIAN main GUI whenever you start a simulation, or whenever you start D2D using enhanced_case_review. GUARDIAN does not start with the start_awips application, so this is another reason to use enhanced_case_review for all your static data replay needs.

The only known limitation with GUARDIAN in WES7.2 is we were having some problems configuring the main GUI to pop up on different monitors, as it is designed to support.

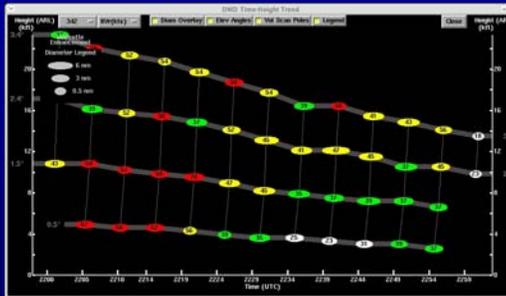
Slide 9

DMD Time/Ht. Enhancement

Duration: 00:00:14

Advance mode: By user

DMD Time/Ht. Enhancement Also Available in WES7.2



Notes:

The DMD time/ht display enhancement is also available in WES7.2.

Slide 10

SREFs Also New...

Duration: 00:00:09

Advance mode: By user

SREFs Also New...

- Short Range Ensemble Forecasting (SREF)
 - Available in volume browser



Notes:

As well as the SREFs in the volume browser (note we don't have any data for our WES7.2 test case yet).

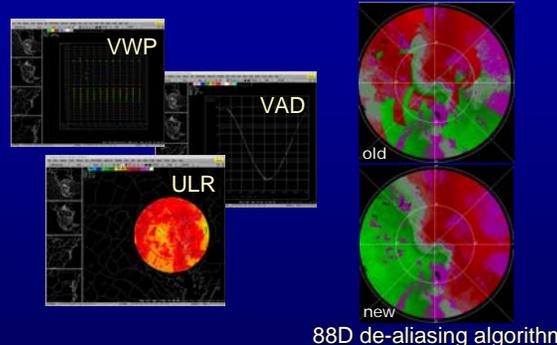
Slide 11

SPG/TDWR Products Also New...

Duration: 00:00:14

Advance mode: By user

New SPG/TDWR Products also New...



Notes:

And the new SPG/TDWR products, including VWP, VAD, ULR, and the new 88D de-aliasing algorithm.

Slide 12 WESSL Improvements

Duration: 00:00:46

Advance mode: By user

WESSL Scripts Now Have 10 Second Resolution

- WESSL Run a :30, :4 the mi
- Synta
- Use 1



Notes:

In WES 7.2 there was only one change to the WES scripting language. We increased the resolution of WESSL commands from one minute to ten seconds. That means that you can issue a WESSL command at :00, :10, :20, :30, :40, or :50 past the minute. This will make it easier to match WESSL commands with actual weather events in the simulator.

To use, simply include the seconds in the “Time” portion of your WESSL script. Note that WESSL will not recognize any second increments that do not end in zero.

WESSL will also continue to accept time entries without seconds (it automatically adds :00 during processing) so your old WESSL scripts will continue to work.

Slide 13 WES7.2 Known Limitations

Duration: 00:00:59

Advance mode: By user

WES7.2 Known Limitations

- RHE3 not work
- System for Nowcasting of Winter Weather (SNOW)
 - Surface observation monitor
 - Requires better point data handling and significant new processing
- EWW
 - Polygons not display in D2D (OB7.2 bug)
- SPC watch polygons
 - Now use WOU product instead of SAW
 - See Section 11 in WES7.2 User Guide

Notes:

There are a number of other known limitations to the WES7.2 that you should be aware of:

- The OB7.2 in WES7.2 will not work with RHE3.
- The new System for Nowcasting of Winter Weather tool called SNOW will not work in WES7.2. This surface observation monitor requires better point data handling than currently exists in WES, and SNOW wasn’t designed with data creation and replay capabilities like other similar applications such as SCAN and FFMP.
- The new enhanced wind warning polygons won’t display in the D2D from the NCEP/Hydro menu. This is a known operational bug in OB7.2.
- Also the SPC watch polygons now use the WOU product for display in OB7.2 D2D instead of the SAW product. We’ve had some problems displaying SPC watch polygons from the WOU text products in WES7.2, but we have a

workaround for still being able to use the old SAW product. See Section 11 in the WES7.2 User Guide for more information on handling archived text data.

Slide 14

Future WES Builds

Duration: 00:01:38
Advance mode: By user

- WES8.1 (Jun. 2007)
 - OB8.1, storm-based warnings, etc
- WES8.2 (Dec. 2007)
 - OB8.2, FSI, FFMP Advanced, and more!
- AvnFPS for DLAC2

- AWIPS Training Capability OSIP
 - needs your support

Notes:

Over the next year we'll be working on two new WES builds. These releases will shortly precede the AWIPS releases. WES8.1 with OB8.1 is planned for Jun. 2007, and WES8.2 with OB8.2 is planned for Dec. 2007. We're also investigating incorporating AVNfps into WES in support of our Aviation Training Collaboration in DLAC2.

In addition to these builds, we're moving the AWIPS Training Capability OSIP forward to try and develop AWIPS baseline training capability in the upcoming AWIPS builds (OB8 and OB9). If baseline AWIPS training capabilities are not developed by OB9 then there will be no baseline training capability in the initial next generation AWIPS which is supposed to be released in 2009 with OB10. The next generation AWIPS will port OB9 to a totally new JAVA-based architecture in OB10 that is supposed to have the same look and feel as AWIPS, but with an entirely new workings under the hood.

The current WES is NOT expected to work with the next generation AWIPS. If a non-baseline training solution is needed, and is possible, in the next generation AWIPS, this would likely require a start from scratch, and extra resources. The next couple of years are a critical point in NWS AWIPS training capabilities. The worst case

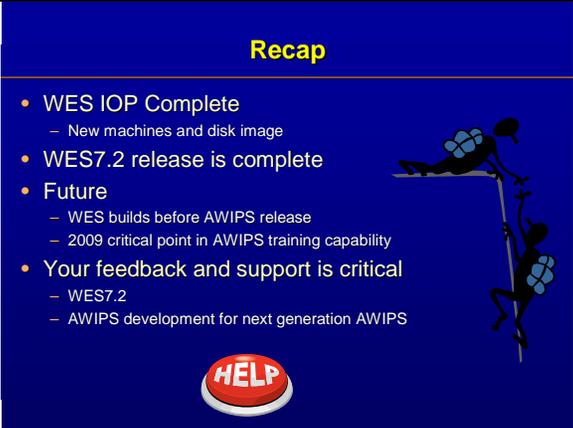
scenario is the current WES capabilities could be lost starting in OB10 in 2009. The best case scenario may be that training capabilities are developed and integrated into OB9 before the release of the next generation AWIPS in 2009.

Make sure and communicate the importance of WES type AWIPS training capability to your regional representation in AWIPS and OSIP.

Slide 15 

Recap

Duration: 00:00:54
Advance mode: By user



The slide has a dark blue background. At the top center, the word "Recap" is written in yellow. Below it is a bulleted list of items. To the right of the list is a cartoon illustration of a person climbing a rope. At the bottom center is a red button with the word "HELP" in white.

- WES IOP Complete
 - New machines and disk image
- WES7.2 release is complete
- Future
 - WES builds before AWIPS release
 - 2009 critical point in AWIPS training capability
- Your feedback and support is critical
 - WES7.2
 - AWIPS development for next generation AWIPS

Notes:

To recap, the new WES Implementation and Operations Plan has been updated to include new roles and responsibilities to enhance the effectiveness of WES. The WES workstations have been replaced with new machines, and a disk image provides a new baseline WES configuration that will limit problems in future upgrades.

The WES7.2 release with OB7.2 is complete, and it requires Redhat Enterprise 4.

In the future we will continue to release stable beta versions of the AWIPS builds with WES prior to the AWIPS release. Also, the next year or two will be important in deciding the future of AWIPS training capabilities.

Your feedback is critical to ensure we are responding to your needs for installation and support of WES. Please complete the surveys and participate in the email list, so that we can effectively communicate problems and solutions.

Also your support will be important in addressing the challenges of the critical turning point for AWIPS training in the next two years.

Slide 16

WES7.2 Overview Training

Duration: 00:00:35

Advance mode: By user

Next in the LMS:
-take one question "exam"
-complete the surveys

WES7.2 Overview Training

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Notes:

This concludes the presentation of the WES7.2 Overview Training. Please take the one question "test" in the LMS to complete the module. This is basically a checkbox saying you completed the training through the LMS. We have a number of folks registered in the WES7.1 training that are not marked as complete, and I suspect the training has been taken.

Then complete the two surveys in the LMS. We only received a handful of surveys, and we need to hear from more of you. If you have problems with the LMS taking this short module, let us know through the WES list.

We value your feedback on this training and the WES. Thanks!