

RACC Meeting Minutes No. 174 (5/10/06)

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, May 10, 2006, to discuss and address national and regional AWIPS issues, problems and concerns.
2. Regions In Attendance: The following regions (and other NWS organizations) participated in the conference call: **ERH**: Joe Palko; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Gar Nelson; **CRH**: Bill Gery, Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Duane Carpenter; **PRH**: Bill Ward; **GSD**: Joanne Edwards; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Timm Decker; **OCWWS**: Shannon White;
3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:
 - a. Status of OB6 and Other Software Issues: As of this morning, 127 sites have completed phase 3 of the OB6 installation. OB6.1 is a maintenance release that contains corrections for 16 DRs. Beta installations will begin on NMTW this afternoon and at BCQ tomorrow. The WFO beta test sites will begin to install the week of May 22. The maintenance release is currently scheduled for a June 1 deployment start date.

Concerning the LDAD Firewall: Revision A of the LDAD Firewall Replacement procedures was posted on March 22. So far, 62 sites have installed it. Only WFOs are authorized to install the firewall but the RFCs and National Centers will be allowed to proceed at a later date (as yet undetermined). The installation rate is currently 3 per install day but the rate has been increased to 5 per day so the focal points can proceed to schedule up to 5 sites per day on the calendar.

- b. WFO Key West Communication Change: Wayne Martin distributed a Power Point presentation before this call and used the file as a talking points. (It is also attached to these minutes and is titled "WFO Key West.ppt".) To briefly summarize, the communication identifier for Key West will change on May 17 at 12 PM EDT. Raytheon and several WSH organizations (OS&T and OPS21) have been working on the AWIPS software changes to support the Key West communication identifier change. These software changes have been packaged into the OB6.0.2 Emergency Release for the appropriate sites affected. However, all sites should download from NOAA1 Fran Curnow's three configuration files as noted in the slides. These files should be downloaded and activated any time prior to May 17. The instructions for downloading and activating these files can be found at:
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ndm/>

By the end of this week, Wayne will send to the regional focal points a collated set of instructions for downloading and activating the three configuration files and Ira Graffman's map background files. Also, Wayne is considering writing a script to determine what sites have downloaded and activated these files.

- c. Several WarnGen Issues: During the last month, there have been 3 cases of a follow up severe weather statement product (SVS) being transmitted with a SVR in the PIL heading and 1

case under a TOR PIL heading. Mike Rega of the SST has worked with the programmers at GSD on this issue and the problem appears to be in the text workstation. No exact cause of the problem has been found and we are aggressively pursuing the problem. We will bring this matter up at the next scheduled Short Duration Warning Working Group meeting tomorrow at WSH.

Another issue is that there has been several WarnGen trouble tickets issued for sites during severe weather. There is a need to emphasize that all sites test their customized WarnGen templates before the severe weather begins, as already documented in the OB6 installation notes and on the severe weather checklist .

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

Alaska Region: nothing significant to report.

Central Region: nothing significant to report.

Eastern Region: We have an RFC that would like to add another Linux box for development at the site. Do we just fill out an ITSO form? Susan Reiley responded that an RC must also be submitted along with the ITSO form and both should be sent to NWSRC@noaa.gov.

Pacific Region: Our site HFO had a recent AVNPS failure after they installed phase 2 of OB6. The NCF was unable to get it back up and the site was disappointed to have to wait until the day shift for second tier support. Unfortunately, no software has any 24/7 second tier support.

Southern Region: What is the status of the regional LDAD Firewall workstation? Mary Buckingham responded that the draft mod note is supposed to be handed off to OPS12 shortly and then it would be finalized. Mary is unsure of the timeframe for this to occur.

What is the status on the DX3 and DX4 instructions? Mary Buckingham responded that she has seen a draft mod note sent to OPS12 but has some serious questions on some of the content. She does not know who she can contact at Raytheon to get more information. This could potentially impact the schedule for OB7.1. Edwin Welles took the action to find out a contact point at Raytheon for Mary. Mary plans on performing a beta test at BCQ and EHU next week or the week after. Mary plans on conducting a field test at SGX after the beta tests are completed.

ACTION Minute 174-1: Edwin Welles to provide Mary Buckingham a Raytheon contact person for questions on the mod note for installing DX3 & DX4.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

GSD: We are still working on the Notification Server problem and have come up with a few possible solutions. We will write an ATAN shortly for a site that has OB6.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: We have heard of some sites not obtaining their WES 6.0 CDs. Please let your sites know that if they have not received the disks, to let Timm Decker know and he will arrange another mailing.

The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24, 2006. If you know of any agenda items you wish to be discussed at this RACC, please e-mail them to Jim Stenpeck and cc Wayne Martin. This is to ensure that all of the appropriate WSH personnel attend this RACC to address your issues.