

Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday June 17, 2010

Attendees:

ABRFC – Eric Jones, Mike Pierce(?)
CNRFC – Rob Hartman, Pete Fickenscher
NERFC – Rob Shedd, Tom Econopouly, Ron Horwood
NWRFC – Harold Opitz
NOHRSC – John Halquist
Deltares – Edwin Welles
OCWWS HSD – Randy Rieman, Dave Riley
OHD – Pedro Restrepo, Jon Roe, Chris Dietz

Pre-reading:

- Support Log distributed via chps_ops on June 16, 2010

1. Health check on Support Log (major issues, show stoppers)

NE reported seeing some infrequent, inconsistent, and irreproducible behavior related to display of multiple time series in a single plot – the system comes up with several independent plots instead of a single one. The ‘display-all-together’ button is ineffective. It only seems to be occurring since the June install. **NW** has not seen this behavior. **NE** will continue to monitor.

The OC crash/exit problem continues at NERFC. It is occurring about every 2 days. Andre is developing a form for RFCs to complete when this happens.

NW recently saw their MC crash; RandyR did a great job assisting them. They noticed at that time there were 4 instances of JBoss running.

Also at NW.... after further testing we found that one of the previously identified SSARREG problems is not an issue any more.

Regarding the Corps interface – USACE doesn’t want a VNC solution, but NWRFC is still working through the bureaucracy.

AB and **CN** now have the June release but neither has installed it yet. When Jeff returns next week **AB** might install then.

Eric has sent HSD an email saying the issue regarding MAPE climatology can be closed.

Action: none.

2. Advanced Configuration Training feedback

NW reported hearing all positive responses from the training. A lot of good information was exchanged. **NW/Bruce** has implemented some local configuration optimizations. **CN/PeteF** said he came back with a list of 10-12 ways to optimize **CN** configurations – will probably take him 6-7 months to complete! **NERFC** reported positive feedback from the training; students weren’t overloaded with information.

Chris had heard that Deltares used some recent OHD configurations as examples for optimization; specifically EPP3 and ESPADP. Some changes will necessitate software mods. One side effect is that OHD will in future conduct configuration reviews (in addition to code reviews); we have 2 developers who attended the Advanced Config training plus Peter. Given the new knowledge about configuration effects on system performance, OHD must also consider conducting performance (regression) testing whenever they make changes to existing configurations. Chris pointed out the need to create performance baselines for comparison.

ABRFC wondered about the HMOS configuration? They will hold off installing HMOS until a configuration review is complete and any necessary changes have been made.

Action: none.

3. Boulder agenda

Some feedback has been received via email.

We need to focus on what's going on with the CAT – issues, show-stoppers, preparations to get to operational running. What would we gain from conducting another Graphics Generator demo? Although we could give a demo, the problem is one of setting expectations. The interface isn't ready for prime time – there's insufficient documentation, and there's no graceful way to create templates – this is partly a software issue and partly a training issue. CNRFC said some of the displays need tidying up. Hank is working on enhancements now for the September release. The tool is very flexible and therefore extremely complex so it needs a training plan. This is no different than when ESPADP first came onto the scene. Regarding next week's agenda – suggest we limit the session to providing a status update; Chris can present, rather than trying to coordinate something with Hank.

Regarding ESPADP: CNRFC has done some testing. There is still a date formatting problem.

The CAT-IIs will be very interested in HEFS – where is it wrt integrating into CHPS?

It isn't clear what the HEFS path forward is. The EPP3 is still very much a prototype piece of software; furthermore it is so impractical to use, it can't be put into operations as-is. We must also factor in the new HL Chief's position that we need to be releasing packages of significant functionality to the field, not just bits and pieces. So although HMOS and the post-processor are closer to readiness, it might not be useful to release them without EPP3.

One of the problems for OHD making progress on XEFS is they're trying to operate “with their shoelaces tied together” – meaning the Lab is suffering from the RFCs' lack of capacity to test and evaluate new software. Due to the preparations for CHPS, XEFS has effectively been load-shed. The CAT-IIs might not yet realize that they too will reach a point where they don't have bandwidth to do anything but focus on getting CHPS into operations. We have an opportunity here to reach out to the technical representatives from the RFCs as opposed to HICs; we should take advantage and convey to them where this is headed.

The group discussed the team-building suggestion, which stemmed from a comment during the last CAT workshop. No one is skilled in facilitating team-building sessions; and we have no time to plan anything extravagant. After a lengthy discussion the group agreed that a good team building exercise might be for smaller groups of CAT-IIs to come up with ideas for leveraging

CHPS at their RFCs once BOC is in place. This might conflict with the upcoming FY11 budget activities, where the individual core goal teams will be working to define work for FY11 through 2020. The information gathered during the CAT-II workshop can be considered additional input for DonC. Pedro will lead the team-building session. As we don't want to throw the CAT-IIs into a team building exercise first thing on Tuesday, we will do it on Weds afternoon.

We had assumed the CATs would provide a single voice and give several unified presentations as we did last year. However there might not be enough time to gather the material and we don't want to overload Monday. Last time the CATs were given a template; there isn't time to develop one now. There are some unified messages the CAT needs to convey to the CAT-II. So as a compromise the group agreed that 2 of the 4 main presentations will be combined (getting CAT-II to operations, on-going RFC development activities); the others will be done individually (CAT/CHPS current status, plans for getting CHPS into operations). The CATs agreed to draft their individual pieces ahead of time and bring their material on Monday.

Do we have an address for the meeting location? Chris will find out and distribute. The same room will be used on Monday; we will start at 8:00 am.

Action: Chris to get status info from Hank for presentation next week to CAT-II.

Action: Chris will send out an address for the meeting room in Boulder.

4. Other items

- i. None.

Action: none.

Next meeting: Thursday July 1, 2010.