

Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday February 3, 2011

Attendees:

ABRFC – Jeff McMurphy

CNRFC – Pete Fickenscher, Chris Mayo

NERFC – Rob Shedd, Alison MacNeil, Jeane Wallace

NWRFC – Harold Opitz, Joe Intermill

NOHRSC – John Halquist

Deltares – Edwin Welles, Peter Gijsbers

OCWWS HSD HSB – Mark Glaudemans, Dave Riley, Xiaobiao Fan

OHD – Pedro Restrepo, Chris Brunner, Mark Fresch, Mike Smith

Pre-reading:

- none

1. Lessons learned during NERFC event on Feb 1

In summary: an OHD software developer was trying to test software on the NHOR system the evening of Jan 31. We believe she mistakenly (unknowingly) logged into NERFC's operational system and uploaded some test configurations which caused NERFC's CHPS to fail; NERFC was expecting to go operational with CHPS the next day, but could not. The system appears to be fixed and running again but NERFC needs to do more testing to confirm.

Facts are still coming together and aren't all consistent; we are currently conducting a "forensic analysis". We will take corrective action. Some technical solutions can be introduced; the question will be how much to automate and where to apply resources.

- At the moment configurations (good or bad) are automatically synchronized between MCs very quickly. Introducing a delay for synchronization does not solve the problem; a better solution might be to introduce a required PIN (known only to staff at the RFC) for uploading configurations in the CM.
- The CM deletes files if they're not needed in a new configuration; this leaves an RFC incapable of restoring a previous healthy configuration. It seems Deltares-NL is already working on a way to roll back to a previous configuration, even when files are "deleted". Edwin doesn't have any specific details yet.

Deltares will work with NERFC to develop and test proposed solutions. The CAT requested they be involved in discussions concerning solutions and also any findings from the "forensic analysis".

Reggina Cabrera sent an email this morning expressing concern about implications of the incident at NERFC and asking for a plan to address the issues. Chris said she will contact Reggina to assure her we will take corrective action once we know all the details.

Action: none

2. Calibration demo

Peter Gijsbers (Deltares) provided a demo to the CAT to show some of the capabilities already in FEWS that could be used for CHPS-based calibration. The demo focused primarily on the stat-qme in an ABRFC configuration. No coding was done for the demo; configurations plus combinations of

transformations were used to produce all displays and features. The software build used for the demo included one bug fix, found during preparation for the demo.

Next steps:

1. Peter will clean up the configuration and provide it to the NWS as an example. From that a general template will be created. This won't be ready until after the CAT-II Advanced Config training (March).
2. All CAT RFCs and NOHRSC will receive a copy of the template configuration and the patch for further exploration. CNRFC said they probably won't have resources to look into it until the Summer.
3. Ai will spend some time with Mike Smith to show him how to run CHPS with calibration features.
4. Deltares will develop a proposal for further software development (Deltares and OHD).
5. For future consideration: RFCs should think about model parameter naming conventions.

Action: none.

Next meeting: Thursday February 10, 2011.