

Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday August 19, 2010

Attendees:

ABRFC – Billy Olsen
CNRFC – Rob Hartman, Scott Staggs
NERFC – Rob Shedd, Alison MacNeil
NWRFC – Harold Opitz, Joe Intermill
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 August 18, 2010

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

ABRFC: Yesterday ABRFC announced that they issued operational products using CHPS for the first time. They have verified that everything downstream worked correctly. They have since rolled back to CHPS because of a (reported) QPF time problem which is a show-stopper. The 12Z run is fine but they have no confidence in the 18Z run (results vary based on when you do the run). No other RFCs have reported this; perhaps it's a configuration issue. It was actually reported some time ago but is now CRITICAL for operational use of CHPS.

Chris noted the large number of open tickets on the “open items” worksheet. Are there really that many open issues? Some are destined for the next release; some are OBE; some are waiting for testing; some are still being worked on. None of the CAT RFCs consider this to be of much concern. Chris will continue to monitor generally but urged HSD to keep track of status and conduct a periodic review. Use of FogBugz will help keep track of open tickets once we start using it.

The SACCO mod problem will be “really” fixed in an August 18 FEWS patch, which is about to be tested on the NHOR; it should be released next week sometime. Edwin will conduct testing for Deltares-USA; OHD will also be testing to provide an extra set of eyes on the tests. The sacbasef fix is not in the patch. NW has rolled back to the 27067 build.

Regarding FogBugz HSD has decided upon a 5-level priority scheme. It might be a good idea for RFCs to practice using the terms. DaveR will send out the list to the CATs. Dave also agreed to send out the RFC-specific names of FogBugz userids – these will be new NOAA email accounts with multiple individual people associated with them. At the same time Dave will send the FogBugz URL so the CATs can begin practicing. A summer student (Jason) has been loading problems into FogBugz from the spreadsheet, but HSD noted that the information is now ~2 weeks out of date.

FogBugz is very easy to use. With the URL in hand, RFCs should try to use the system for a few days. In agreement with all CATs HSD agreed to provide a brief gotoMeeting (or equivalent) next Tuesday Aug 24 (RandyR will send details). A formal class is overkill for this tool; but we must at a minimum address conventions/consistency of usage across all RFCs. Only one field is mandatory – the problem description. The text for a problem description can be typed in directly or taken from (eg) a Word file; you can also attach files. Priority will default to High (to be

resolved in 2-10 days); RFCs (or HSD) can change a priority on an open ticket at any time if needed. The tool will generate reports (e.g. summary of all open tickets) but HSD hasn't tried that aspect yet. The tool allows administrators to add fields. The RFC-specific email account will see all ticket/email activity associated with issues they report. This group will likely want to change the way FogBugz is configured as we all learn more.

As an FYI... NWRFC reported they also flipped over to operational use of CHPS today. However unlike ABRFC they are staying operational on CHPS unless something goes badly wrong (at which point they will revert to NWSRFS). The COE seems to be content that everything is working okay. NW will be looking closely at downstream products. They have today/yesterday discovered some OC synchronization problems but they are not yet sure if the error is on the RFC's side.

Randy noted he is setting up a depot on NHOR to test upgrading CHPS systems to RedHat 5.5. So far the upgrade seems to be fast/smooth. More information will follow.

Action: DaveR will send out the FogBugz priority definitions to the CATs.

Action: DaveR to send out the RFC-specific names of FogBugz userids.

Action: RandyR to issue details for a brief gotoMeeting (or equivalent) on FogBugz (features/how to use, mandatory fields, common conventions, etc.) next Tuesday Aug 24.

2. Calendar review

Chris sent out a new version of the CHPS calendar. Note that User (aka Forecaster) Training for the CAT-II is now included. Deltares has just come up with suggested dates which will be distributed to the CAT (buddies) for review before sending out to the CAT-II. The first batch of user training isn't until late October now. Edwin will distribute the spreadsheet for confirmation, then on to the CAT-II.

Edwin also noted the Advanced FEWS Configuration Training in February/March 2011 is 2 weeks not 1 week.

The CAT had previously agreed to hold the next workshop during the week of October 18; however RobH announced he has a schedule conflict on Tuesday. We might be able to do Weds noon through Friday 5:00 pm. Rob will check the agenda to confirm if the conflict is Tuesday, and also whether his arrival at NERFC by Weds noon is feasible.

Action: Rob to check his agenda and confirm that his schedule conflict is on Tuesday Oct 19; also whether he can arrive at NERFC by noon on Weds 10/20 for the start of the CHPS planning workshop.

3. Any other items?

- Chris relayed some Graphics Generator plans from Mark Fresch. The next release will be available in late Oct/early Nov. Within a month after that MarkF will develop 2 lists: one with must-have changes to use Graphics Generator instead of ESPADP, to be delivered in time for the Jan/Feb release; the other list will be for desired enhancements and TBD future releases.

- JohnH reported his SHEF-to-PI_XML has been tested at NERFC. Some documentation remains wrt setup and configuration of CHPS. John's program now passes SHEF codes straight through to CHPS (does not attempt to do any mapping); Edwin will start looking at ID mapping

for SHEF codes and will get them up and running at NERFC; then Edwin will send John some notes for his documentation which explain how RFCs will be able to configure. John also mentioned some vagaries regarding 32-bit vs 64-bit combinations. He has tested his code on mixed machine configurations but as we continue the migration from 32-bit to 64-bit problems will likely surface.

- Chris mentioned the AWIPS program has decided that the AWIPS LX will now be dual-booted for 32-bit operation during AWIPS-I and 64-bit during AWIPS-II.

Action: none.

Next meeting: Thursday Aug 26, 2010