

Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday January 14, 2010

Attendees:

ABRFC – Billy Olsen, Jeff McMurphy, Mike Pierce
CNRFC – Rob Hartman, Pete Fickenscher
NERFC – Rob Shedd, Ed Capone
NWRFC – Harold Opitz, Joe Intermill
NOHRSC – (absent)
Deltares – Edwin Welles
OCWWS – Xiaobiao Fan
OHD – Jon Roe, Chris Dietz, Seann Reed

Pre-reading:

- Support Log distributed to the chps_migration list on Jan 6

1. HEC-RAS issue

NERFC has uncovered two problems with HEC-RAS. One of them (on the Hudson) appears to be a straightforward modeling issue; Seann/Fekadu will work this with Ed Capone. The second problem seems to highlight a difference between the Linux and Windows versions of RAS. Geometry files might not be transferring correctly. Seann is working with Peter to identify the root cause. A workaround exists. NWRFC can continue with their HEC-RAS implementation; they will still be able to validate results in a qualitative, not quantitative, manner.

Action: none.

2. Health check on the Support Log

Several updates were provided via the chps_migration list. The software version numbers provided at the top of the front sheet are out of date and will be corrected.

ABRFC has one blocker to parallel operations: #138 (“missing snow”). When they first click on a segment in the IFD the plot shows runoff from snowmelt, but when the segment is re-run it disappears. The SWE is fine when the run is done manually.

What’s the relationship between the Support Log and the Development Registry? The Support Log is for items from the chps_ops list. Some of those problems are configuration, some are software items. The software items will be transferred to the Development Registry for future release consideration.

Comment: the “Title” entries are cryptic. They are not meant to be very explanatory, just a quick way to refer to an issue. Full details are provided via the referenced email.

Action: none.

3. Planning for next CAT and CAT-II workshop

The most recent workshop seemed less productive than previous ones. Do we need a CAT workshop as soon as March/April? We should not have a meeting too soon after the March release

– perhaps wait a month or two so the CATs have time to provide a thorough evaluation. Some CATs expect to be focused on transition to operations in April, which will require particular attention. The CATs also feel we need to keep an eye on performance and ensembles; also the future direction of calibration, backup, and HEFS (particularly the Graphics Generator). Conclusion: we will aim for a CAT workshop the week of 10 May. Location: CNRFC, Sacramento.

Will we need a CAT-II workshop in June? The CAT-II will have done a lot with their Migrations by then, so we should hold one as planned (week of June 21). Suggest we dedicate Monday June 21 to CAT preparation; then hold the workshop Tues 6/22 – Thurs 6/24. Location: this is tricky as we have ~30 participants. Suggest Boulder, CO. COMET and NOAA both have conference facilities. Chris will investigate both. We might take the opportunity to hook up with GSD? Also Tim Schneider for discussions on the HMT's role in CHPS.

Action: Chris to identify potential venues for the CAT-II workshop in Boulder, CO for w/c June 21 2010.

4. Status of Performance work at Deltares

Rob Shedd provided some useful performance metrics from NERFC via the `chps_migration` list (Great Lakes basin, 28 segments, 120 days, 44 ensemble members). Edwin noted Rob's numbers are before implementation of 2 performance improvements coming in January: 1) a fix for update states; and 2) software parallelization. These numbers are similar to those noted at Deltares. They represent a significant improvement. Onno has seen considerable performance improvements with the update states using ABRFC's config – an earlier version on the SA with 500,000 states in the database took > 1 hour; the same thing now takes 8 mins 15 secs. Onno and Matthijs don't yet have numbers for the Great Lakes scenario using the January software release.

We will keep the performance information in a document started ~June by Edwin last year; Edwin will post it on the wiki.

All presentations from the recent CAT workshop are now on the wiki, including the performance slides.

Action: Edwin to post the performance document (from ~June 2009) on the wiki.

5. RFC backup – feedback on slides

Edwin distributed some slides regarding the CAT's discussion last week on service backup. He will re-post in case they were lost during the recent list server problems. Next steps: NW and CNRFC will test the MC synchronization; RobS will look at the SA to see if/how it could contribute to the backup needs; Edwin will collect and publish some backup scenarios.

Can we make a statement about RFC backup for BOC-II? A national solution may require some AWIPS effort. RFC service backup is a lot broader than just CHPS. Solutions for offsite backup will probably be site or region specific. We can certainly look into CHPS-based tools that help facilitate any solution. We can't require any more than that.

Action: Edwin to resend the presentation on RFC Backup to the CAT.

6. Other

Upcoming Migration & Configuration Training classes – CATs request that Chris send a list of participants to the CAT.

As an aside Edwin announced that Deltares is planning to give a FEWS configuration training class for anyone in the hydro community (e.g. HRC, RTi, others) this Summer in Silver Spring. A location has not yet been identified. Originally targeted for May, the CAT/CAT-II workshops may impact timing for the class. The class would be provided at a TBD \$ cost to everyone, but with a discount for the NWS. The format would be 3.5 days of user and configuration training (possibly 0.5 days user training, 3 days of configuration training), with a separate optional 1 day class for NWSRFS-CHPS migration training to be offered back-to-back with the user/configuration training.

Other upcoming training:

System Manager training for CAT-II's is expected the w/c 4/19/2010. The training will be at one central location yet to be determined; it would be best to hold this at an RFC with 2 systems (i.e., CAT not CAT-II location). Edwin will ask Frederik if he thinks the CAT Buddies should attend. CATs to agree on a location.

Advanced configuration training for the CAT is scheduled for w/c 6/7/2010. The CAT agreed this training will be held in Taunton (NERFC).

Action: Chris to send current list of Migration & Configuration Training attendees to the CAT.

Action: CATs to choose a location for the CAT-II System Manager training w/c 4/19/2010; Edwin to ask Frederik if CAT buddies should attend.

Next meeting: Thursday January 21, 2010.