

“CL31 Replacement with ASOS ACU V2.79X, DCP V2.0 EPROM, and IFW Sensor Firmware V4.54” OT&E Test Review Group Status Meeting

July 30, 2009

ATTENDEES:

NWS:

OT&E Site Electronics System Analyst (ESA)/ Electronic Technician (ET):

WFO Caribou, ME
WFO Burlington, VT
WFO Blacksburg, VA
WFO Bismarck, ND
WFO Aberdeen, SD
WFO Gaylord, MI
WFO Midland, TX
WFO Amarillo, TX
WFO Norman, OK
WFO Cheyenne, WY
WFO Phoenix, AZ
WFO Spokane, WA
WFO Hilo, HI

NWS Regional Headquarters:

Don Bolton, ARH
Jim Jones, ARH (ABSENT)
John Bush PRH
Lew Harrington, SRH RMS
Dan Lester, CRH RMS
Tom Townsend CRH
Duane Wilkinson CRH ASOS Focal Point
Bob Brashears CRH (ABSENT)
Matt Ferrell, ERH RMS (ABSENT)
Kevin Murray, ERH
Tim Rutkowski, ERH
Son Nguyen, WRH (ABSENT)

National Weather Service Headquarters:

John Monte – W/OST11
Joel Williams W/OST/11
Joyce Dickerson – W/OST11
Greg Dalyai – W/OPS12 (ABSENT)
Joseph Devost – W/OPS12
Mickey Renegar – W/OPS12 (ABSENT)
David Mannarano – W/OPS22
Richard Parry - W/OPS22 (ABSENT)

Chet Schmitt – W/OPS22
Peggy Hoch – W/OPS23
Hak Kim – W/OPS23
Kevin Conaty – AOMC (ABSENT)
Tony Weiss -AOMC
Beth McNulty – W/OS23
Laura Cook – W/OS7
Fred Hauschildt – W/OPS14 (ABSENT)
Jennifer Dover – W/OPS22 (ABSENT)
Brian Rice – SAIC SFSC
Barbara Childs – SAIC SFSC (ABSENT)
Khien Nguyen – W/OPS24 (ABSENT)
Harry Tran – W/OPS24 (ABSENT)
Joseph Fiore – W/OPS24 (OT&E Test Director)
Jerald Dinges – W/OPS24 (Moderator)

National Weather Service Training Center

Bob Retzlaff - Kansas City, MO

National Reconditioning Center (NRC)

Mark Russo – Kansas City, MO (ABSENT)

NWS Employees Organization (NWSEO) Representative:

Chris Kornkven –WFO Milwaukee, WI

FAA:

Bing Huang, ATO- T
Jerry Kranz, (contractor)

DOD - U.S. Navy:

Gerald “Wayne” Knight - Space and Naval Warfare System Center
(SPAWARSYSCEN), Charleston, SC (ABSENT)

Ronald Heatherdale – Space and Naval Warfare System Center (SPAWARSYSCEN),
Charleston, SC

DOD - U.S. Air Force:

William (Mac) Lawrence
Ricky Keil (ABSENT)

The twenty-first CL31 ceilometer replacement Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) Test Review Group (TRG) status meeting was held by audio conference call on Thursday, July 30 2009. Jerry Dinges, moderator, convened the meeting with a “roll call” (See above list of attendees).

After roll call, Jerry asked the TRG if there were any changes to the minutes from the July 23rd TRG meeting. There were no changes to the minutes. The minutes from the July 23rd TRG meeting were ratified, and will be posted on the W/OPS24 website:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/asos_ceilometer.htm

For this meeting, Jerry followed a formal agenda e-mailed to the TRG just prior to the meeting (See attachment). The first topic on the agenda was an update of the weekly SYSLOG analysis at the CL31 OT&E sites provided by John Monte (W/OST11). **John reported overall, most sites continue to exhibit no SYSLOG issues since installing V2.79V and now V2.79X. John stated the SIO card errors continue to be chronic at Spokane, WA (GEG).** John also reported his staff could not dial into Guadalupe Pass, TX (GDP) to see if they fixed their chronic SIO card errors because the phone line was busy. WFO Midland, TX staff reported a power outage in that area due to a severe storm and would likely be out of service until Monday, Aug. 3. John also reported the CL31 at Aberdeen, SD (ABR) has a problem (TTR #225: CLR Suspect Module (Primary) Failure). John and Joel Williams (W/OST11) are working with the ET at WFO Aberdeen to resolve the problem. It is likely the engine board Lowest Replaceable Unit (LRU) needs to be replaced, but Joel will help ABR determine the LRU that needs to be replaced. WFO Burlington, VT (BTV) reported they had a “window condition failure,” however this did not affect the CL31 data or cloud reports from BTV. John said this is a transient failure, and would be monitored.

The next topic discussed was a status report on CL31 false reporting of low clouds/SPECIs focusing on OKC and GEG (TTR # 224 False Reporting of Low Clouds with SCT Layer). GEG has not reported any “false clouds” since the event on July 21. John Monte asked Joel Williams to provide a summary of the bird issues at OKC. OKC had previously reported the “false clouds” were caused by birds roosting on the CL31. The birds were hopping back and forth across the CL31 laser. There were a lot of bird droppings on the CL31 and other ASOS sensors, but more bird droppings on the CL31. The bird activity was very high during this time and the grass was very high. The high grass attracted a large insect population and attracted the birds. The grass has been cut since that time, and the bird activity has significantly decreased around the ASOS and the CL31 sensors. There have been no more “false clouds” reported at OKC since the grass has been cut.

Joel reported, with the OT&E Director’s permission, WFO Norman removed the vertical rods from OKC’s back up (L3) ceilometer on 7/29/09 to see if there would be less bird activity at the back up CL31 with the vertical rods removed. The vertical rods are still on the primary ceilometer (L1). John said the bird abatement study being performed at SFSC indicated removing the vertical rods had no adverse impact on the effectiveness of the bird abatement device (metal wire around ceilometer hood). John also stated the FAA and NWS Eastern Region Headquarters believe the vertical rods were not needed, and that they were an eye hazard. The conclusion is the vertical rods for the CL31 will most likely not be used. OKC will continue to monitor the bird activity and see if the birds move to the CL31 with the vertical rods installed. Because the bird activity has significantly

decreased since the grass was cut, the “false cloud” problem at OKC has not occurred again. This problem is not chronic, and seems to be resolved for now, but it will continue to be monitored. It was noted cutting the grass around the ASOS might not be a simple remedy for the bird problem at other airport locations where the grass might not be cut but once a season. **Dave Mannarano (W/OPS22) suggested if the “bird issue” at OKC increases again in the future, that a data logger and motion sensitive camera be installed at OKC to help investigate the problem.**

WFO Norman also reported there was evidence of birds getting into the bottom of the CL31 through an opening located at the bottom of the CL31. WFO Norman installed a thin flexible wire mesh to cover the hole in an attempt to prevent the birds from getting into the sensor. WFO Norman stated there was evidence (the wire mesh was bent) that the birds tried to get into the CL31 after the flexible wire mesh was installed. Dan Lester (NWS CR) asked WFO Norman if they could take a picture of the wire mesh screen and send it to the TRG. Walt Jameson (ET PHX) suggested WFO Norman use heavy-duty rabbit wire to build the wire mesh. Since the bird intrusion into the CL31 does not affect the operational performance of the CL31, John Monte will investigate the bird intrusion into the CL31 as a maintenance issue for the future. John Monte asked the Air Force and FAA to query their sites to see if bid intrusion into the ceilometers at the Air Force and FAA sites is a problem. It was noted the potential problem of nesting indirectly causing the SCT low clouds and associated SPECIs phenomenon by nesting birds staying around the CL31. Chet Schmitt observed the “nesting problem might occur more in areas of the country with sparse vegetation like at OKC. In the Eastern U.S. where there are more trees for birds to nest, the CL31 might be less likely to attract birds for nesting.” Also, statements were made that other creatures such as insects (e.g. wasps) could enter to nest causing potential problems for the ET visiting the site.

The next topic discussed was the SIO card errors at GDP. As WFO Midland reported earlier, commercial power was out at GDP until Monday, August 3 due to a severe storm that hit GDP. An ET from WFO Midland, TX (Charles Yaws) prepared documentation on the history of the SIO card errors at GDP during the OT&E, including the solution that has most likely fixed their SIO card errors. The SIO card error at GDP was caused by a failed DTS-1 sensor, which was configured on the same SIO card as the CL31. This failed DTS-1 in turn caused the SYSLOG SIO card 1 port 2 error (CL31). GDP replaced the DTS-1 sensor and moved it to SIO card 4 port 4, and they have had no more SIO card errors associated with the CL31 since they moved the DTS-1 sensor. John Monte or SFSC will dial into GDP next week after the power is restored to download the GDP SYSLOG, and monitor GDP to confirm that the SIO card error at GDP has been fixed. **NOTE: The previous TRG approved-plan to swap the CL31 from GDP with the CL31 at Guymon, OK (GUY) is “ON HOLD” based on the potential fix to the SIO card problem at GDP.**

Then the SIO card errors at GEG were discussed next. GEG is in the process of swapping their CL31 with the CL31 at Portland, OR (HIO). GEG has the CT-12K ceilometer installed on their ASOS until they receive the CL31 from HIO. GEG is the now only site that continues to have chronic SIO card problems (and other problems). John Monte and

Hak Kim will concentrate their efforts and work with GEG next week to help resolve their problems.

The next topic discussed was a proposal by Dan Lester (NWS CR) to have the OT&E sites configure their Freezing Rain (FZRA) sensors to see if adding another sensor to the suite has any adverse effect on the V2.79X firmware. Dan noticed at Cheyenne, WY (CYS), there was a sensor response time out error from the FZRA sensor configured on the CYS ASOS. W/OPS24 will ask the OT&E sites that have a FZRA sensor to turn on the FZRA as soon as possible. The SYSLOGS will be monitored to see if configuring and turning on the FZRA sensors has any adverse effect on the V2.79X firmware.

Jerry concluded the CL31 portion of the meeting by stating that the focus in the next couple of weeks will on resolving the issue at GEG and monitoring the bird issue at OKC. Jerry also stated that an OT&E “wrap up” meeting would be held soon to go over all issues seen during OT&E, and ask the TRG to vote on whether to proceed to national deployment of the CL31.

W/OPS24 will continue to gather several pieces of information needed for the completion of OT&E including:

- 1) Completing the SYSLOG analysis from the ‘baseline’ SYSLOG analysis before V2.79V OT&E;
- 2) Collecting the TTRs, OTR, and RC documented during the OT&E for adjudication;
- 3) Collecting the OT&E questionnaire from the 21 OT&E sites;
- 4) Collecting the comments on Mode Note 80 and Mode Note 92 from the OT&E sites;
- 5) Writing a “lessons learned” document from the OT&E; and,
- 6) Ensuring the OT&E test objectives (sent out my email to the TRG on 7/1/09) are met.

This concluded the session on the CL31 OT&E.

Jerry and Brian Rice (SAIC SFSC) next provided a brief update on the status of V3.01 ST. First, Jerry reported since Khien Nguyen is out of the office (emergency family leave), Jerry is incorporating comments on the V3.01 ST plan into the final version of the document. Jerry will send the modified V3.01 ST Test Plan out for review (via email) as soon as he has finished incorporating the changes into the V3.01 ST Plan.

Brian Rice (SAIC SFSC) reported V3.01 ST (on ST0) is going well and there were no major problems encountered to date. Brian reported 90 out of 100 regression tests have been completed, and the remaining 10 regression tests (ADAS ALDARS and FTI tests) need to be performed by Khien Nguyen with the FAA Technical Center, Atlantic City, NJ when he returns from leave. Brian also reported 10 specific tests have been completed and 37 specific functional tests provided by Khien so far still need to be performed on ST0. (NOTE: 30 additional specific tests still remain to be conducted in addition to the 37 remaining at SFSC). Brian also stated that 5 of 20 “real world” data sets have run successfully. After all the tests and data sets have been run successfully on ST0, they will

be run again on the SCA ASOS at SFSC. This concluded the session on the ASOS V3.01 ST.

Jerry also informed the TRG a new ST for the AWPAG LogoSense V3.61 and orifice heater V2.1 will start in August using the new SCA system (ST2) at SFSC. Harry Tran is the ST Director for this new project. This project was approved by the ATRB in February 2009 and the ST strategy approved in May 2009. OPS22 finished coordinating a policy decision to set the now programmable low temperature cut-off threshold on the orifice heater to be always set 9F degrees. The ST will validate the draft NWS Engineering Modification Note and validate the new AWPAG firmware has no negative affect on ASOS using V2.79X, V2.7D, and V3.01 ACU firmware.

This concluded the session on status of the ST for ASOS ACU V3.01.

Finally Jerry summarized the test readiness of the Thin Client OT&E. Jerry stated the Thin Client OT&E is ready to begin and reconfirmed the **OT&E “Kick-Off” Test Readiness Review (TRR) Meeting for Thin Client OT&E is scheduled via teleconference at WSH at 1:30 PM EST on Wednesday, August 5th**. Joe Fiore sent the TRG an e-mail on July 30 to announce the “Kick Off” TRR Meeting, and the start of the Thin Client OT&E. Joe Fiore reported he sent a reminder e-mail to the NWS regional focal points asking them to coordinate with the ESAs at each WFO participating in thin client OT&E to coordinate with the local FAA representatives at the Air Traffic Control Tower and for the Contract Weather observers about their planned installations of the AXEL thin client replacements for the Operator Interface Devices and Visual Display Units. OPS12 will “initial issue” the Thin Client hardware at NLSC to be shipped to the WFO’s that are participating in the OT&E instead of having the WFO’s “routine order” the Thin Clients from NLSC. Joe also reported he updated the original September 2008 OT&E plan to accommodate the use of only the AXEL thin client and the change to initial issue rather than routine issue the equipment from NLSC.

This concluded the session on the AXEL thin client logistics replacement for ASOS OID/VDUs.

The following is the accounting for each action items from the previous TRG meetings:

- a. Action Items 8 (03/09/09), 17 (3/19/09), 35 (4/16/09), 43 (5/7/09), 79 (6/11/09), 84 (6/18/09), 85 (6/18/09), and 93 (7/1/09) will remain OPEN (No change until Phase II OT&E). **NO CHANGE**
- b. Action Items 108 (7/23/09), 110 (7/23/09), 112 (7/23/09), and 113 (7/23/09) were **CLOSED**.
- c. Action Items 109 (7/23/09) and 111 (7/23/09) remain **OPEN**.

The specifics for each action item follow:

Related to CL31 OT&E:

Action Item 8 (03/09/09) - OPEN: WSH will download the SYSLOG error messages (1015, 1515, and 1537) from all 22 OT&E sites daily and will analyze the data to determine how many random sensor time out SYSLOG error messages are generated with a \$. SAIC contract personnel at Sterling Field Support Center, Sterling VA will perform the work. Jennifer Dover (W/OPS22) will report the statistics to the OT&E TRG at the weekly meetings during the OT&E. In preparation for this activity OPS24 personnel will analyze the same SYSLOG error messages for each 15 OT&E site (22 minus the 7 Meteorological Comparison Evaluation Beta sites) for 30 days PRIOR to the OT&E. This analysis will “baseline” the number of random sensor time out errors occurrences before V2.79 V is installed.

STATUS: This action will remain open until the completion of the V2.79X OT&E (currently planned for mid-August). An NWS “tiger team” has been formed to perform detailed analysis on this SIO card error problem. The “tiger team” is lead by W/OPS12 and NRC, with participation by W/OPS22, W/OPS23, W/OPS24, and W/OST11. The “tiger team” will determine if the SIO card errors are serious enough to stop the deployment of the CL31 ceilometers and suspend OT&E until the problem is fixed. The “tiger team” will use Jennifer’s spreadsheet to start analyzing these errors.

Action Item 17 (03/19/09) – OPEN: Re-Assigned to W/OPS22 and W/OS7. W/OPS22 will coordinate the policy and procedure for disposal of the old CT12K sensors after deployment of the CL31 sensors. Joe Devost and Fred Hauschildt will provide the disposal plan for the CT12K.

STATUS: Dave Mannarano reported that W/OPS22 would talk in detail about plans for disposal of the old CT-12K ceilometers during Deployment Readiness Review Meetings which will be piggy backed onto the CL31 TRG meeting beginning in late June when OT&E is nearing completion. Dave stated that the initial plan is to have approximately 300 CT-12K ceilometers shipped to NRC after the CL31 ceilometers are deployed and installed. Dave said that there was no resolution yet on who would pay for the shipping and local disposal of the remaining CT-12K ceilometers after deployment of the CL31 ceilometers. **This Action Item will remain open until OT&E is complete and until the CL31 Deployment Readiness meetings are conducted “piggy backed” to the end of the CL31 TRG meetings in mid July.**

Action Item 35 (4/16/09) - OPEN: Assigned to OPS12 and OPS24. Greg Dalyai and Jerry Dinges will track “Lessons Learned” to ensure the problems encountered and solutions found are published, as appropriate (i.e., test report, final Mod notes, Tech tips, etc.) to minimize repeated problems occurring during the installations of CL31 for general deployment.

STATUS: This action item will remain OPEN until the OT&E Final Report is generated. A summary of lessons learned will be developed before the final report is generated.

Action Item 43 (5/7/09) OPEN: Assigned to W/OPS12. Joe Devost and Greg Dalyai will coordinate with the field on plans to discuss options for a possible national policy on the issue of the new solar winds program download problems on ET's laptops, and possible issues with local WFO access rights with the laptops and the LAN.

STATUS: W/OPS12 will continue to investigate options for downloading the solar winds programs to the ET's laptop with WSH, the NWS regions, and the individual WFO's. This action item will remain OPEN until the conclusion of OT&E. W/OPS12 will contact National Weather Service Headquarters' IT to help resolve this issue. A recommendation was made by the TRG to have W/OPS12 contact the ASOS security officer about national policy on this issue.

Action Item 79 (6/11/09) OPEN: Assigned to OPS24. Jerald Dinges will ensure a recommendation in the OT&E test report state, the Maintenance Branch (W/OPS12) establish a "tech tip" documenting a recommended port assignment scheme for sensors contacted through the SIO card on ASOS. New Action: Jerry will coordinate and lead a meeting between W/OPS24, W/OPS23, W/OPS22, W/OPS12, and W/OST11 to discuss this topic next week

STATUS: The SIO card errors and prioritization of SIO ports was discussed at a separate meeting between NWS Headquarters (WSH) W/OPS24, W/OPS23, W/OPS22, W/OPS12, and W/OST11. The meeting took place at WSH on July 15th, and minutes from that meeting will be attached to the July 16th TRG minutes. OPS12 was assigned the action with NRC to determine the problem sites' configuration before and after the CL31 was installed and to determine if prioritizing port assignment of sensor on the SIO card will decrease the occurrence of ASOS SYSLOG error problems.

UPDATE: The urgency of this action was lowered since the GDP and GEG sites were deemed the only 2 OT&E sites with chronic SYSLOG error reports for the CL31. The problem at GDP appears resolved by replacing a faulty DTS1 sensor. The problem at GEG is being worked on at the site and might be caused by a faulty CL31 at GEG.

This action item will remain open until the OT&E test report is complete.

Action Item 84 (6/18/09) OPEN: Assigned to regional focal points and OT&E sites. The regional focal points and field sites (sites with temporary mounts) that ordered and received additional SIO, A/D cards, power control modules, and Fiber Optic Modems for OT&E need to remove them from their respective DCPs at the conclusion of the OT&E and return them for credit to clear the due-in.

STATUS: This action will remain open until all Regions report their OT&E sites have turned in the parts back to NLSC for the temporary mounts for credit on "due ins." Joe

Fiore will help focal points track all actions are completed to ensure the proper disposal of the temporary mounts at each affected sites.

Action Item 85(6/18/09) OPEN: Assigned to OPS24 and OPS12. Joe Fiore will work with Joe DeVost to collect all comments received from the OT&E ETs on both NWS Engineering Modification Note #80 and #92 and send them to all the ASOS OT&E ESAs and ETs so they can see what comments have been noted during the OT&E during the installation phase of the new Vaisala CL31 and the associated ASOS ACU firmware and DCP EPROMs.

UPDATE: W/OPS24 or W/OPS12 sent out the Mod Note comments received to date to the TRG before all comments are received, so other sites can benefit from the comments and not have to duplicate comments.

STATUS: This action will remain open until the regions confirm we received all comments on the draft mod notes from the OT&E sites.

Action Item 93 (7/1/09) OPEN: Assigned to W/OPS24 and W/OST11 a comparison of the “baseline” SYSLOGs and the SYSLOGs after the CL31 became the stand-alone ceilometer will be performed by W/OPS24 and W/OST11.

UPDATE: Joe Fiore sent a spreadsheet summarizing the SYSLOG analysis for the ASOS “baseline” firmware prior to OT&E out to the TRG on July 7. Final comparison between the “baseline” SYSLOG analysis and the SYSLOG analysis for V2.79V/V2.79X after the CL31 was the stand-alone sensor (CT-12K deconfigured) will be completed before the end of the OT&E.

STATUS: This action will remain “OPEN” until the end of the OT&E.

Action Item 108 (7/23/09) CLOSED: Assigned to ESA at WFO Spokane, WA. Dwight Williams will install a new DCP memory card for GEG per Walter Jameson (PHX) to determine if this action fixed the persistent SIO sensor time out problems at that site.

STATUS: Dwight Williams installed a new DCP memory card at GEG, but it did not fix the SIO card errors.

Action Item 109 (7/23/09) OPEN: Assigned to WFO Midland, TX and WFO Spokane WA and their respective NWS southern and western regional headquarters ASOS focal points. The WFO Midland agreed to ask WFO Amarillo, TX if they were willing to switch the Guymon, OK (GUY) CL31 sensor for the GDP CL31 sensor. During the meeting, the WFO in Midland (GDP) contacted the WFO in Amarillo (GUY), and they agreed to meet in Amarillo to swap the CL31 sensors next Tuesday, July 28th. WFO Midland will include Lew Harrington (SR Focal Point) in any correspondence on the status of this switch. The WFO in Spokane, WA (GEG) agreed to ask the WFO in Portland, OR (HIO) to see if they could swap the CL31’s. Son Nguyen (WR Focal Point) and Joe Lachacz (WR) are coordinating the swap of the CL31’s between GEG and HIO

with the ESA's at GEG and HIO. The swap of the CL31 between GEG and HIO should occur next week.

STATUS: Since GDP seems to have solved their SIO card errors, the swap of the GDP CL31 with GUY is "ON HOLD." The swap of the GEG CL31 with HIO is in progress and should be complete next week.

Action Item 110 (7/23/09) CLOSED: Assigned to WFO Phoenix, AZ. Walter Jameson will swap the L1 and L3 connections in the DCP of PHX to see if the SIO card sensor error problem occurring on L3 will go away.

STATUS: Walt completed the switch of L1 and L3 and the problem stayed with CL31 configured as the back-up (L3) ceilometer. This proves the problem is not with the CL31 sensor, but with the DCP, SIO card, or Fiber Optic modems.

Action Item 111 (7/23/09) OPEN: Assigned to OPS12. Joe DeVost will coordinate with Jerry Dinges (determined after meeting, Jerry is manager of the CL31 OT&E assets) whether to ship the limited production unit for Malmstrom AFB, MT to NRC for support and an action item for OPS12 and NRC to analyze the SIO sensor timeout problems occurring in the OT&E.

UPDATE: This is "ON HOLD" until to allow time to see if GEG can resolve their chronic SIO card problems first.

Action Item 112 (7/23/09) CLOSED: Assigned to W/OST11. John Monte will contact Vaisala to notify them of the "false cloud" reports and "cloud hits" caused by birds roosting on the CL31 ceilometer and blocking the laser beam at OKC. GEG reported similar "false clouds." However, no analysis to validate bird activity at the ASOS has been accomplished yet.

STATUS: Since the bird activity has significantly decreased at OKC, and this issue is not chronic, this issue will be monitored by the NWS and Vaisala will not be contacted unless the problem becomes chronic.

Action Item 113 (7/23/09) CLOSED: Assigned to OPS22. Chet Schmitt will dial into GEG to download the site data and perform a similar analysis as done for OKC and present the results to the TRG.

STATUS: Chet was unable to get the data from GEG since he dialed into the site on 7/23 and the event occurred on 7/21.

The following new action items were assigned during the July 30 TRG meeting:

Action Item 114 (7/30/09): Assigned to OST11. John Monte and Joel Williams will work with WFO Aberdeen to determine if the CL31 at ABR is faulty. After WFO

Aberdeen sends the engine board LRU to NRC, Joel will ensure the LRU is sent to Vaisala for diagnostic work and report the results to the TRG.

Action Item 115 (7/30/09): Assigned to WFO Norman. Jeff Engel (ESA) will continue to monitor the bird activity and see if the birds move to the CL31 with the vertical rods installed. Since the bird activity has significantly decreased since the grass was cut, the “false cloud” problem at OKC has not occurred again. This problem is not chronic, and seems to be resolved for now, but it will continue to be monitored.

Action Item 116 (7/30/09) CLOSED: Assigned to WFO Norman. Dan Lester (NWS CR) asked WFO Norma if they could take a picture of the wire mesh screen on the bottom of OKC’s CL31 and send it to the TRG.

STATUS: Jeff Engel (ESA WFO Norman) sent the picture to the TRG on 7/31/09.

Action Item 117 (7/30/09): Assigned to Mac Lawrence (USAF) and Bing Huang (FAA). John Monte asked the U.S. Air Force and FAA to query their sites to see if bid intrusion into the ceilometers at the Air Force and FAA non-ASOS sites is a problem.

Action Item 118 (7/30/09): Assigned to OST11. John Monte will dial into GDP after power is restored to the site and confirm the chronic ASOS SYSLOG error reports are resolved from the previous action by WFO Midland replacing the site’s DTS1.

Action Item 119 (7/30/09): Assigned to John Monte (W/OST11) and Hak Kim (W/OPS23). GEG is the now the only site that continues to have chronic SIO card problems. John Monte and Hak Kim will concentrate their efforts and work with GEG next week to help resolve their SIO card errors.

Action Item 120 (7/30/09): Assigned to W/OPS24. Joe Fiore will ask the OT&E sites that have a FZRA sensor to turn on the FZRA as soon as possible to see if configuring another sensor has any adverse affect on V2.79X firmware.

Related to V3.01 ST:

Action Item 103 (7/9/09) OPEN: Assigned to W/OPS24. Khien will complete the 50 (**NOTE: Actual number is 79**) specific test procedures for V3.01 and provide them to SFSC soon. Khien also stated that he would provide SFSC with 20 data sets provided by Chet Schmitt (W/OPS22) to test various break points for the ASOS algorithms in V3.01 using data from real data collected at ASOS sites. **Khien, with technical support from Chet, will teach SFSC personnel how to run the 20 datasets.**

STATUS: Khien Nguyen provided Brian Rice, SFSC SAIC test support, with the last 9 regression test procedures, 42 of **79** (unedited) specific function test procedures, and 20 ‘real world’ data sets on Tuesday, July 21. Khien will be away on leave from July 24 through August 7. Joe Fiore will be the contact point for SFSC regarding the ST in

Khien's absence. Chet Schmitt will be the contact point for questions and problems related to the data sets.

Action Item 104 (7/9/09) OPEN: Assigned to W/OPS24. Joe Fiore will contact the NWS regional focal points, the FAA focal Point, the U.S. Navy focal point, and the USAF focal points for suggested sites for V3.01 ST. Joe Fiore will begin to write the Draft Test Plan for V3.01 OT&E to be completed by September 30, 2009.

STATUS: Four sites will be added to the V3.01 OT&E thus far in coordination with OPS22: 1) Portland, Me – Large bird problem (QC algorithm for IFW); 2) Tulsa, OK – False report of wind peak/gust (QC algorithm for IFW); 3) Tuscon, AZ - (AWPAG false tip reporting algorithm; and 4) Austin TX, Mueller Municipal Airport (KATT) - (AWPAG false tip algorithm).

Action Item 110 (7/23/09) OPEN: Assigned to U.S. Navy. Ron Heatherdale (U.S. Navy) will confirm that the U.S. Navy SPAWARSYSCEN ASOS no longer uses the test AOMC to download their ASOS site data.

STATUS: Ron Heatherdale needs to confirm this at the overseas Navy ASOS sites.

Action Item 111 (7/23/09) OPEN: Assigned to W/OPS24. Jerry Dinges will updated the ST plan for ASOS ACU V3.01 with final comments and send out the final version by e-mail.

STATUS: Jerry continues to revise the plan. Distribution will be the week of August 3rd.

Related to OT&E for OID/VDU Thin Client Logistics Replacement:

Action Item 63 (5/21/09) OPEN: Assigned to W/OPS24. Khien Nguyen will contact the US Navy SPAWARSYSCEN in Charleston, SC to make sure that the line driver test (power boost) of the “daisy chained” VDU's has been completed.

STATUS: The U.S. Navy has not yet had a chance to perform this test.

Action Item 73 (6/5/09) CLOSED: Assigned to W/OPS24. At the FAA request, Joe Fiore will ask the ESA's or ET's at each OT&E site to send a notice to the Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT), and the Contract Weather observer (CWO) 1-week in advance of the plan to install the thin client VDU's and/or OID's. **COMPLETE**

UPDATE: Jerry Dinges sent an e-mail to the NWS regional focal points on July 17 and again on July 23 asking them to coordinate with the ESA's/ET's at each OT&E site to send a notice to the Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT), and the Contract Weather observer (CWO) 1-week in advance of the plan to install the thin client VDU's and/or OID's. Joe Fiore followed up with a reminder e-mail on July 30.

Action Item 107 (7/9/09) CLOSED: Assigned to W/OPS24. Joe Fiore will send the TRG an e-mail about one week in advance (week of July 27-31) to announce the “Kick Off” TRR Meeting, and the start of the Thin Client OT&E.

STATUS: Joe Fiore sent the e-mail to the TTG on July 30.

The next OT&E TRG meeting will be scheduled for **Thursday, August 6 at 2 pm EDT** to provide a status report on OT&E activities. Please use the following information to dial into the meeting:

Telephone: 1-866-685-1879

Password: 8259362#