ASOS OT&E TRG Meeting

June 21, 2012

Attendees:

NWS Headquarters, Silver Spring, MD:	**U.S. Navy**
Joe Fiore OPS24	
Rick Parry OPS22	
Chet Schmitt OPS22	
Jennifer Dover OPS22/SFSC	
Peggy Hoch OPS23	**U.S. Air Force**
Toni Remy OPS23	
Barb Burgos OPS32/AOMC	
Greg Dalyai OPS12	
Sergio Marsh OS7	**NCAR**
NWS Regions and WFOs	**FAA**
Bob Brashears Central Region	Jerry Kranz
Dan Lester Central Region	
Robert Weaver Central Region	
Dean Covais Eastern Region	
Dave Eckberg Eastern Region	
Mike Esip Eastern Region	
Ronald Quillen Eastern Region	
Tim Rutkowski Eastern Region	
Mike Baldwin Eastern Region	
John Compo Eastern Region	
John Bush Pacific Region	
Alan Lowe Pacific Region	
David Meek Pacific Region	
Lew Harrington Southern Region	
NWS Training Center	

On Thursday, June 21, 2012 the National Weather Service Test & Evaluation Branch (OPS24) and Software Branch (OPS23) hosted the ASOS V3.06 Phase 1 OT&E TRG Meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of the ASOS Software V3.06 Phase 1 OT&E, Data Analysis Summary, V3.061 diagnostic load for TTR 319, and follow on activities.

DISCUSSIONS:

V3.061 Diagnostic Load System Stability Test

The ASOS 3.061 diagnostic software load was installed on ST0 and ST2 at SFSC and the OPS 24 test system in Silver Spring (SP1) on June 14 for a one week stability test. After the system stability test and ACCB approval the load will be installed at the Phase 1 problem sites (7 SCA sites and 2 remote pressure sensor sites) for a limited one month Field Demonstration test to collect more information. This software load tests a work around to further analyze TTR 319, Cabinet Temperature Messages in SYSLOG at SCA sites. This problem only occurs at SCA sites and remote pressure sensor sites since these are the only sites that need a cabinet temperature reading to determine whether or not to report pressure data. Analysis found no problem with the source code but it is suspected that the system is too busy and will occasionally miss a cabinet temperature reading. If the load is successful it will be merged into the next operational software load V3.07. The Request for Change for V3.061, RC 13221 will have to be approved by the ACCB before the Field Demonstration can begin.

V3.06 Diagnostic Load Field Demonstration

If 3.061 Stability Test is successful then it will be installed at the following 9 sites beginning the week of June 25:

1V4 - St. Johnsbury, VT (SCA)
NYC - Central Park, NYC (SCA)
DMH - Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD (SCA)
ANJ - Sault Ste. Marie, MI (SCA)

CDJ - Chillicothe, MO

P28 - Medicine Lodge, KS (SCA)

P68 - Eureka, NV (SCA)

POR - Portage Glacier, AK (remote pressure in DCP)

GDP - Guadalupe Pass, TX (SCA and remote pressure in DCP).

The field demonstration of 3.061 cannot start until the ACCB approves the RC to test 3.061. The field demonstration will run for approximately four weeks through the end of July or early August. After this time period, if there are no problems, we will begin ST and then OT&E for V3.07.

V3.07 ST and OT&E

V3.07 is the next planned operational software load. The new V3.07 software load includes fixes to three Test Trouble Reports (TTR's) that were written against software version V3.06 during Phase 1 OT&E. V3.07 also includes an RC that will change how a CL31 ceilometers response timeout gets processed by ASOS. This RC will help significantly reduce the number of CL31 sensor response timeouts, and more importantly reduced the number of "$" (maintenance action required) that must be addressed by the Electronic Technicians.

The first part of the OT&E is scheduled to start approximately in mid August at 22 "O" and "D" level operational ASOS sites, and continue until the second part of the OT&E starts. The second part of the OT&E is scheduled to last from approximately late August or Early September 2012 and continue through the winter of 2012-13 at 31 "A", "B", and "C" level sites. The start of the second part of the OT&E is contingent upon the NWS receiving the waiver letter from the FAA for not changing Observer and Air Traffic Controller passwords. Once the waiver letter is received from the FAA, the 31 sites in part 2 can start installing 3.07, and the 22 part 1 sites will continue to run 3.07, but will not be formally tracked during the OT&E.

OT&E V3.07 - OT&E part 1:

If ST passes with no critical TTRs then V3.07 OT&E part 1 will begin at 22 (D&O) sites.

OT&E V3.07 - Phase 2A, Phase 2B:

V3.07 OT&E part 2 will take place at 31 Sites (A, B, C). A signed waiver is needed from the FAA on OBS/ATC passwords before part 2 of the OT&E can begin. If the signed waiver is received from the FAA during installation at the 22 part 1 sites (D, O), part 2 sites can install 3.061 concurrently with the 31 (A, B, and C) sites.

Field/Regional Questions & Discussions

Joe Fiore clarified for the group that V3.07 will contain fixes for two TTRs found during Phase 1 OT&E as well as a software change for RC 13221, CL31 Sensor Response Timeout and the Setting of the Maintenance Flag. The TTRs to be included are TTR 309, Unexplained Freezing Rain Sensor Response Timeouts and 30 or 45 Sec Deice, and TTR 315, Warm Start on ACU UPS Page. Also, the workaround for TTR 319 will be included in V3.07, if successful. The new load will increase the stability and reliability of the software, while decreasing the maintenance workload for the field. OPS24 is finishing the test plan for V3.07. The V3.07 OT&E will not retest the features already verified in V3.05, V3.051 and V3.06 OT&E, however, these features will continue to be monitored.

Greg Dalyai mentioned that after discussions with the Training Center, it was brought to his attention that the procedures in the OT&E Maintenance Note 39A will have to be

modified to instruct the technicians to manually turn on/off the power breaker to the freezing rain sensor at sites with the single cabinet assembly (SCA). Dave Eckberg (ET LWX) expressed concern that a priority 1 ticket was issued by the AOMC because they were unable to dial in to DMH. This was due to the AOMC not being aware that the password had changed. Joe Fiore stated that there are still some learning curve issues being addressed and he has already discussed this with Chris Stark/AOMC. Joe also mentioned that these types of issues are good to go through during OT&E so that when we go operational there will not be any problems.

Dean Covais asked about where to get V3.061 software load when it is time to install that load. Greg Dalyai said he will send him the information.

The next ASOS V3.06 TRG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 19, 2:00-3:30 pm (EDT) SSMC-2 Room 4246. The conference call dial in number is 1-877-690-0813; participant pass code – 8521699#.