ASOS OT&E TRG Meeting

January 5, 2012

Attendees

NWS Headquarters, Silver Spring, MD:	**U.S. Navy**
Joe Fiore OPS24	No participants
Hak Kim OPS23	
Toni Remy OPS23	
Rick Parry OPS22	**U.S. Air Force**
Chet Schmitt OPS22	Robert Beebe
Jennifer Dover OPS22 SFSC	
Aaron Poyer OPS24	**NCAR**
Greg Dalyai OPS12	No participants
Sergio Marsh OS7	
NWS Regions and WFOs	**FAA**
Don Bolton Alaska Region	Paul Armbruster
Bob Brashears Central Region	Cal Smith
Robert Weaver Central Region	
Bruce Cromell Eastern Region	
Dave Eckberg Eastern Region	
Matt Ferrell Eastern Region	
John Bush Pacific Region	
David Meek Pacific Region	
Lewis Harrington Southern Region	
Scott Birch Western Region	
Adam Mathis Western Region	
Son Nguyen Western Region	

On Thursday, January 5, 2012 the National Weather Service Test & Evaluation Branch (OPS24) and Software Branch (OPS23) hosted the ASOS V3.05 OT&E TRG Meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of V3.051 ST (1st debug load) and plans for limited V3.051 OT&E, any Test Trouble Reports (TTRs) from V3.501 ST to date, and the upcoming test for the password changes for V3.05 OT&E.

Discussions

Joe Fiore led the meeting and began by giving the status of V3.051 ST debug load. The system test is now complete with all nine test procedures passing. The test procedures were tested at Sterling on ST0 and ST1, with ST1 running continuously without cold booting or warm booting to try to catch any problems that take time to appear. There was one watch item TTR (#298 – Altimeter Continuously Displayed on One Minute screen with All Pressure Sensors Deconfigured) identified during testing – when one or two pressure sensors are deconfigured the altimeter should to go missing on the one-minute screen, but it never went missing for over 1 ½ hours on ST0 at SFSC. This only happened one time and could not be duplicated.

Since V3.051 passed system test, it will be installed at a limited number of sites for a limited V3.051 OT&E. Austin, Texas -ATT will be one V3.051 OT&E site since it already has a data logger. Other sites for V3.051 will include DMH – Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD in the Eastern Region, and ANJ - Sault Ste. Marie, MI in the Central Region. SFSC will send a data logger to DMH and ANJ, and DMH and ANJ will install V3.051 to help test the V3.051 debug load. The data loggers will be shipped out next week to the two sites (ANJ, DMH) that currently do not have them. Greg Dalyai will work with Joe Fiore to determine the best method to get the software to the sites. The test for these three sites will run for approximately a month and if all goes well V3.051 OT&E will follow at all Phase 1 OT&E sites.

Joe Fiore gave an update on the current V3.05 site list. The current site list can be found on the OPS24 website at http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/asos_v3.htm then click on the drop down area under "Miscellaneous Documents". There are a total of 14 sites participating. Several large bird cases have been identified by ice free wind QC algorithm. Rick Parry and Chet Schmitt and other members of the data analysis team will review the data to ensure the QC algorithm is working as designed.

Lew Harrington asked whether the T group issue is going to be a TTR or a watch item and if it will be corrected. Joe Fiore said that a TTR has been written (TTR 296 – "T" Group Not Reported in SPECI Report) and will be corrected in a future software load, most likely in the software load that includes the fix for TTR 295 – Pressure Data Missing and Pressure Response Timeouts.

The next agenda item was to remind everyone that the dates for the first test of the 12 character strong passwords are scheduled for January 10 - January 26, 2012. The test of the changing of the passwords to strong 12 character passwords is a critical test objective for V3.05 OT&E. The following is the schedule for each of the regions:

Eastern Region – January 10
Alaska Region – January 11
Southern Region – January 18
Central Region – January 24
Western Region – January 25

The password change will be set up by OPS12 the night before the scheduled date, using a script file to change the passwords at midnight on the scheduled date. Jennifer Dover has distributed the password tables, pins and Proof Point website (encryption website) to the sites participating in the test. Jen will send Aaron Poyer the passwords via Proof Point to be used for the script file that downloads ASOS data from the 14 OT&E sites for data analysis. Greg Dalyai will work with the sites to verify phone numbers prior to testing. This password change process is a Critical Test Objective for V3.05 OT&E. There were still some questions about how to retrieve a lost password. Joe Fiore said he will send out another copy of the flow chart that demonstrates the lost password process, and a copy of the final signed SOP with the password instructions, once it is obtained from the ASOS System Manager. He will also provide the link to the OPS24 website for the information.

Joe informed the group that the TTRs for V3.05 are the same, no new TTRs to report. There is only the watch item from V3.051 ST mentioned above. The four TTRs that have been reported for V3.05 OT&E will need to be adjudicated to determine when they will be fixed.

Next, the meeting was opened to address any questions from the field. Rob Weaver asked about a situation at ANJ where there was a sensor response timeout from the Freezing Rain Sensor, during a de-ice. Joe explained that the freezing rain frequencies during this time were very high (~40015), which should trigger a clamp de-ice. It is believed that the de-ice at ANJ was a clamp de-ice. Joe stated that he thought the high frequency on the freezing rain sensor should have triggered ABF calculation. Hak Kim explained the six conditions that need to be present to for ABF algorithm (CALIBRATION NEEDED) to be performed automatically. Hak also explained how the CALIBRATION AUTHORIZED and CALIBRATION NEEDED functions perform on the Maintenance Page for the Freezing Rain Sensor. In the first instance after the cold boot of the system, the ABF algorithm is automatically run, and the CALIBRATION NEEDED is set to Y message (generated by the system). The CALIBRATION NEEDED message is always set by the system. <u>After cold boot of the system, and the initial ABF algorithm is run, the CALIBRATION AUTHORIZED message must be toggled from N or Y by the Technician or System Manager or the ABF algorithm will not by run in the future.</u>

Rob Weaver asked about the status of the unexplained warm starts issue at ANJ and other phase 1 OT&E sites. Joe Fiore reported that warm start analysis is continuing, and that a TTR will most likely be written soon to address this problem. TTR 306 – Unexplained Warm Starts was added to the TestTrackPro database on 1/11/12.

Bruce Cromell asked how the Remote Access Code (RAC) will work. Aaron Poyer replied that the only difference is now, at start up, a NOAA security message will be displayed and you have to answer yes (Y), then as in the past enter the RAC and log in at the level desired (Technician or System Manager), or remain an unsigned user.

The next ASOS V3.05 TRG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 19, 2:00-3:30 pm (EST), SSMC-2 Room 4246. The conference call dial in number is 1-877-690-0813; participant pass code – 8521699#.