

**“CL31 Replacement with ASOS ACU V2.79V and DCP V2.0 EPROM” OT&E  
Test Review Group Status Meeting**

**March 12, 2009**

**ATTENDEES:**

**NWS:**

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

WFO Cheyenne, WY

**NWS Regional Headquarters:**

Ed Doerr, ARH

John Bush, PRH

Lew Harrington, SRH RMS

Dan Lester, CRH RMS

Matt Ferrell , ERH RMS (ABSENT)

Kevin Murray, ERH (ABSENT)

Tim Rutkowski, ERH (ABSENT)

Son Nguyen, WRH

**National Weather Service Headquarters:**

John Monte – W/OST11

Joel Williams – W/OST11 (ABSENT)

Joseph Devost – W/OPS12

David Mannarano – W/OPS22

Richard Parry - W/OPS22

Chet Schmitt – W/OPS22

Peggy Hoch – W/OPS23

Hak Kim – W/OPS23 (ABSENT)

Kevin Conaty - AMOC

Beth McNutly – W/OS23

Laura Cook – W/OS7 (ABSENT)

Jennifer Dover – W/OPS22

Brian Rice – SAIC Contractor – Sterling Field Support Center, Sterling, VA

Khien Nguyen – W/OPS24

Joseph Fiore – W/OPS24

Harry Tran – W/OPS24

Jerald Dinges – W/OPS24 (Moderator)

**NWS Employees Organization (NWSEO) Representative:**

Chris Kornkven – Weather Forecast Office Milwaukee, WI (MKE) – (ABSENT)

**FAA:**

Bing Huang, ATO- T (ABSENT)

Jerry Kranz, (contractor)

Dennis Kamin, Airways Engineering Support Logistics Center, Oklahoma City, OK

**DoD - U.S. Navy:**

Ronald Heatherdale and Gerald “Wayne” Knight – Space and Naval Warfare System Center (SPAWARSYSCEN), Charleston, SC

**DoD - U.S. Air Force:**

William (Mac) Lawrence

The first CL31 ceilometer replacement Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) Test Review Group (TRG) status meeting was held by audio conference call and “GO TO MEETING” web-based software on Thursday, March 12, 2009. Jerald Dinges, moderator, called the meeting to order with a “roll call” (See above list of attendees).

Since this meeting followed only 3 days after the OT&E Readiness Review meeting held on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, Jerry stated the purpose of the OT&E Test Review Group (TRG) was to focus on creating a “baseline” of the hardware and software for the OT&E sites. The OT&E was initially started in November 2008 and a lot of preparatory work already had been accomplished to help start the OT&E with install the temporary mounts for the CL31 ceilometer, getting all the hardware to install the CL31 ceilometers, the draft installation instructions and user manuals, besides the current ASOS firmware needed. Several action items were taken from the November readiness review meeting that are relevant for this current OT&E installation. Therefore, Jerry stated he included as part of the minutes to the March 9<sup>th</sup> OT&E Readiness Review meeting, the previous action items from the November 2008 OT&E Readiness Review meeting which remained in “OPEN” status. These actions were read and the status updated accordingly. In addition the two new action items from the March 9<sup>th</sup> OT&E Readiness Review meeting were also read for a status update. The following is the accounting for each action item:

1. Action Item 1 (11/17/08) is CLOSED after the November 2008 meeting.
2. Action Item 2 (11/17/08) remains OPEN.
3. Action Item 3 (11/17/08) remains OPEN.
4. Action Item 4 (11/17/08) is CLOSED after the November 2008 meeting.
5. Action Item 6 (11/17/08) remains OPEN and is still relevant for installation of CL31 and V2.79V tracking.

Jerry asked Joe Devost, W/OPS12, to update the Microsoft worksheet reporting on hardware deliverables for installation of the CL31s. These parts were either shipped from National Weather Service Headquarters (OST11 or OPS12) or were to shipped to the National Logistics Support Center for requisitioning by the OT&E site’s Electronic Technician. Joe stated he would provide Joe Fiore with the final spreadsheet; Joe would e-mail the spreadsheet.

In addition, Jerry stated OPS24 mailed to the appropriate ESA’s a compact disc with a copy of the ASOS ACU test firmware V2.79V by Federal Express on Wednesday, March

11 at 5 p.m. EDT. Jerry stated the sites already operating with V2.79T will just need to install the latest firmware. However, Khien Nguyen noted that the ESA's should "pull the jumper cable in the DCP to cold boot the DCP with V2.0. Joe Fiore will include these instructions to the 7 sites operating with V2.79T.

Jerry also stated Joe Fiore e-mailed all the ESA's the website URL containing all the draft NWS modification notes and Vaisala CL31 user manual. It is important to note here that OT&E plan only calls for the Electronic Technician to do preventative or routine maintenance only if required. If the need arises, the draft Vaisala user manual should be followed and comment upon by the electronic technician.

Joe Fiore, OT&E Test Director, will monitor the OT&E sites to ensure accurate updates are recorded and presented on subsequent TRG weekly status meeting to monitor the completion of the CL31 hardware and ASOS V2.79V firmware installations.

The following specific Action Items were assigned during the November 17, 2008 OT&E readiness review meeting and are still valid and will be tracked to completion. Here is the latest status for each action item as reported by Jerry at the March 12<sup>th</sup> TRG status meeting:

**Action Item 1 (11/17/08) - CLOSED:** Assigned to W/OPS24 reflecting changes to the OT&E Plan. W/OPS24 will update the OT&E plan to reflect changes noted during the TRG "Kick-Off" meeting. COMPLETED

- 1) Move Roanoke, Virginia (ROA) into the second part of OT&E. It was noted during the meeting, ROA has a "back up" ceilometer. Therefore, ROA will not participate in the first part of OT&E. They will participate in the second part of OT&E like PHX and CMH.
- 2) Add Chris Kornkven, ET @ WFO Milwaukee, WI, as the NWS Employee Organization representative to the TRG. (This was confirmed by NWSEO in an e-mail separate from the meeting).

**Action Item 2 (11/17/08) - OPEN:** Assigned to W/OPS12 regarding any SIO/ATD boards sent to ETs. W/OPS12 will provide W/OPS24 with a list of OT&E sites that require an extra "ATD" board if they have more than eight sensors on one ATD board. This list and explanation for the extra ATD board will be e-mailed to the site requiring the extra board by W/OPS24.

**STATUS:** The above list was sent in November. However OPS12 will provide OPS24 with an updated spreadsheet listing all ASOS hardware including the DCP EPROMs sets which were provided to each of the 22 OT&E sites from National Weather Service Headquarters (OPS12 for OST11) or were to be requisitioned from NLSC by the site. OPS24 will provide this spreadsheet to the Electronics System Analyst for the OT&E site(s) to verify they have received the items.

**Action Item 3 (11/17/08) - OPEN:** Assigned to W/OPS12 and W/OPS24 regarding when Phase II OT&E sites will get their additional CL31. An e-mail will be sent to ROA, CMH, OKC, and PHX to inform them when to except the second ceilometers. ROA, CMH, OKC, and PHX will receive their second CL31 ceilometer after the decision is made to make the CL31 the operational ceilometer.

**Action Item 4 (11/17/08) - CLOSED:** Assigned to W/OPS24 and W/OPS12 to ensure ESAs do not replace the CT12K with the CL31 during the initial installations. After discussion at the TRG meeting, it was noted the draft NWS Engineering Mod Note 92 is written for replacement of the CT12K ceilometer with the new CL31 ceilometer. The OT&E test plan states the CL31 ceilometer is to be mounted on a spare pedestal or temporary mount during OT&E, and the CT12K ceilometer is NOT to be removed from its mount until after OT&E is complete. Therefore the ESAs are to ignore the first part of NWS Mod Note 92 which instructs them to remove the CT12K ceilometer. The ESA's will start from the section that says to install the CL31 ceilometer. W/OPS24 will inform the ESA's in what section of the mod note (step and page number) they will start, so they can install the CL31 sensor on the temporary or spare mount. – **COMPLETED**

**STATUS:** OPS24 worked with OPS12 and sent out separate instructions to the OT&E sites detailing modified instructions to install the CL31 without replacing the CT12K.

**NOTE:** The draft mod note 90 will be verified as intended to replace the CT12K with a CL31 ceilometer at the four sites installing their backup and Met. Discontinuity ceilometer sensors (ROA, OKC, PHX, and CMH).

**Action Item 6 (11/17/09) – OPEN:** Assigned to ESA's to inventory all items they receive from NLSC and WSH. The ESA's will inventory all items received (CL31 ceilometer) CL31 hardware kits, V2.0 DCP EPROMS, V2.79V software (and documents obtained from the OPS12 website), and let the OT&E Test Director (Joe Fiore) know by e-mail (or phone) if the inventory list is complete.

**STATUS:** Reference Action Item 10 below.

**Action Item 7 (11/17/08) - OPEN:** Assigned to ESA's. The ESA's (**NOTE: exception is Dan Lester for NWS Central Region**) will notify the OT&E Test Director (Joe Fiore) by e-mail when they are ready to install the CL31 ceilometer, V2.0 DCP EPROMS (for sites that use EPROMS), and ASOS V2.79V ACU Software. They will also notify the OT&E test director when installation of all required material is complete.

**STATUS:** New Action Item 10 below replaces this Action Item.

**Action Item 8 (03/09/09) - OPEN:** National Weather Service Headquarters 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 SAIC personnel at SFSC will also 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:** John Monte (OST11) convened a conference call with Jennifer Dover (W/OPS22) and Jerry Dinges and Khien Nguyen (W/OP24) to coordinate this activity.

**Action Item 9 (03/09/09) - (CLOSED):** W/OPS24 will inform the OT&E sites how they will get the V.79V (02/17/09). **COMPLETED**

**STATUS:** OPS24 sent CDs with V2.79V by Federal Express mail on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> to 18 of the 22 OT&E sites.

The new action items as a result of March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting are as follows:

**Action Item 10 (03/12/09) – OPEN:** W/OPS12 and W/OPS24 assigned the action. Joe DeVost will provide the updated spreadsheet listing the hardware items necessary to install the CL31 ceilometer for each OT&E site. These items will be delineated by which are to be provided from WSH and which should be requisitioned from NLSC. Joe Fiore will disseminate the spreadsheet to the appropriate OT&E sites who have NOT install the CL31 yet.

**Action Item 11 (03/12/09) – OPEN:** Assigned to W/OPS24. Joe Fiore will provide the TRG a status update at each status meeting on the CL31 ceilometer and ASOS ACU V2.79V and DCP V2.0 EPROM installation until all 22 sites have completed this activity.

The next OT&E TRG meeting will be scheduled for **Thursday, March 19 at 2 pm EDT** to provide a status report on OT&E activities. There will only be an audio conference call. Please use the following information to dial into the meeting:

Telephone: 1-866-685-1879

Password: 8259362#