

## **AWIPS II is Coming: Things You can do to Prepare**

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The first phase of the AWIPS Evolution project provides AWIPS with modern software architecture. As Jack Hayes stated in a recent NWS Town Hall meeting, AWIPS Evolution represents one of the NWS' highest priorities.

This first phase lays the groundwork for additional enhancements at the infrastructure level for AWIPS for the foreseeable future. In order to position ourselves to take advantage of this technology, we must ensure that AWIPS-II is successfully deployed to all WFOs and RFCs. Given the magnitude of this change, participation from all levels of the organization is required to achieve this implementation.

OST strongly recommends the following actions in order to prepare for this upcoming implementation:

1. Read the Product Improvement Plan (PIP) for AWIPS-II. This document provides an overview of the activities to take place over the next 18 months to 2 years. This document is located on the AWIPS Evolution website.
2. Join the AWIPS-II List Server by pointing your browser to <http://infolist.nws.noaa.gov/read/login>, then click on Search, then hit the Subscribe link opposite awips2dev
3. Start learning the technology associated with the new architecture.
  - a. The NWSTC has put together a reference site which provides sources of information on these technologies. ([http://www.nwstc.noaa.gov/AWIPS/ADE/ADE\\_resources.html](http://www.nwstc.noaa.gov/AWIPS/ADE/ADE_resources.html)). This webpage is organized based on NWS office duties to provide an initial idea of knowledge area based task.
  - b. Targeted AWIPS-II training is scheduled to begin in April, 2008 with an Introduction to Service Orientate Architecture module. Other modules will be announced in the upcoming months.
4. For developers of local applications, it is expected that a significant number of local applications can be migrated using JavaScript. So, you can begin by learning the syntax of this language. More complicated applications are expected to be migrated into the new architecture via plug-ins written in Java.
  - a. Inventory your site's configuration and local applications. Clean up any unused local application code and/or application configuration files, including GFE SmartTools and SmartInits. If you know what your site uses operationally, then you should have less work to do in the future as the transition begins.
  - b. Curtail the writing of new local applications in the existing AWIPS architecture as this effort is likely to have to be re-done in the new environment.

A National Core Local Application Development Team (NCLADT) is being defined to assist in the migration of local applications to the new architecture. This team is composed of representatives from all six regions.

5. Work with your regional focal point representative to assist in the evaluation of the migrated baseline software. For each Task Order, SEC is organizing a User Functional Evaluation (UFE). The purpose of the UFE is to evaluate the look and feel of the migrated baseline capabilities.
6. AWIPS-II source code is currently NOT publicly available and thus it IS controlled technology under U.S. deemed export law. If you do request and receive a copy of the AWIPS-II source code, you must add the AWIPS-II software to your existing list of controlled technology and must ensure that it is not exported to prohibited nations or entities or associated foreign nationals.

It is also strongly recommended that you periodically refer to the AWIPS Evolution website <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ost/SEC/AE/index.htm> as well as stay in communication with your regional focal point with respect to this project.