

## **AWIPS II Topic of the Week -- Introduction to the Architecture**

In very broad terms, AWIPS II consists of two pieces, a Graphical User Interface (GUI) and a server. The GUI is called the Common AWIPS Visualization Environment (CAVE), and the server is called the Enterprise Data Exchange (EDEX). CAVE, the GUI, is where you will find your familiar applications like D2D, GFE, and HydroView. It is built upon an open source project from Eclipse called the Rich Client Platform (RCP). (See [http://wiki.eclipse.org/index.php/Rich\\_Client\\_Platform](http://wiki.eclipse.org/index.php/Rich_Client_Platform).) The EDEX is where you will find your data ingest, data storage and computations. The backbone of EDEX is the Mule Enterprise Service Bus (ESB), another open source project. (See <http://mule.mulesource.org/>.) Both CAVE and EDEX use a number of other open source projects linked with source code written by Raytheon to create a system of loosely coupled elements exchanging information via messages. By using open source projects and loose coupling Raytheon has been able to accelerate their development and, we expect, to reduce our maintenance costs. Stay tuned for more info about EDEX, CAVE, Mule, the RCP and the other architectural pieces of AWIPS II.

.... and if you or someone you know wants to be added to the mail list for these postings, please send your request to Fran Curnow at [Frances.Curnow@noaa.gov](mailto:Frances.Curnow@noaa.gov).

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