

AWIPS II Topic of the Week -- Forecaster Initial Testing

For AWIPS I, we have PIT (Pre-Integration Testing). For AWIPS II, we will have FIT, Forecaster Initial Testing. Because we have several systems in the same room, the forecasters will be able to conduct some side-by-side testing. They will be able to look at AWIPS II to see if it is the same as AWIPS I. Just as with the AWIPS I PIT, we will provide test cases and encourage ad hoc scenario testing (i.e. just checking out the software without pre-defined test steps). We want to use the ad hoc testing to help us create forecast scenarios to expand our set of test cases. We will run FIT here in Silver Spring after each Task Order is delivered. In addition, we hope to engage both GSD in Boulder, CO and our friends at the National Weather Center in Norman OK as additional test sites for FIT events. Our first FIT will be in early December when we run the AWIPS II GFE through its paces. For the December testing, we will need forecasters with GFE expertise and then for the TO-10 FIT we will need hydro and local application expertise. The FIT will be a great opportunity for us to collect direct user feedback on the new software in order to ensure a high quality product when it is deployed. We look forward to hosting the FIT forecasters here when they come.

Thanks
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