Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday September 16, 2010

Attendees:
ABRFC – Billy Olsen, Eric Jones, Jeff McMurphy
CNRFC – Rob Hartman, Scott Staggs, Chris Mayo, Brett Whitin
NERFC – Rob Shedd, Ron Horwood
NWRFC – Harold Opitz, Joe Intermill
NOHRSC – [absent]
Deltares – Edwin Welles
OCWWS HSD –Mark Glaudemans (@ NERFC), Xiaobiao Fan, Dave Riley (@ NERFC)
OHD – Jon Roe, Chris Dietz

Pre-reading:
  o   Support Log distributed via chps_ops on Sept 16, 2010

1. Update on Beta Testing of the CHPS-1.0.0 release at NERFC and NWRFC

    We began daily conference calls last week; RFCs are finding them very useful. Talking directly with
    the developers helps give RFCs more confidence in the software. Summary of where we are:

        HEC-RAS v4.1 – the issue concerning a 4th field at NWRFC has a workaround (edit the file)
        but RMA is looking into a software fix. Seann is working with RMA. Also a "How To"
        document for configuring HEC-RAS in CHPS is in the works; Seann just submitted his
        comments back to Matthijs. [Matthijs is currently working on ResSim, which has a higher
        priority.]

        OHD software – Lee recently distributed a patch to NE and NW (SSARESV fix + updates to
        FFG migration scripts)

        FEWS – RobS noted, "This is by far the most stable and well-running system we've seen so
        far". Deltares/Andre is tracking a set of issues, some are already fixed. We expect a patch
        early next week. The pi-service problem (#343) was supposed to be fixed in the release but
        Erik suggested this morning that it must not have made the build in time; it will be in the
        upcoming patch for sure. [Edwin will follow up.]

        Question 1: ABRFC and CNRFC are supposed to get the Beta release next week (20-24). Can
        we hold off until the patch is ready and give them both the Beta and the patch at the same
        time? Perhaps we should ask AB and CN. Deltares prefers that we not do it that way; we
        don't want to delay having AB/CN identify problems that could be in the build but have not
        been identified by NE or NW. Additionally, placing AB and CN on the critical path for the
        patch puts unnecessary pressure on the Deltares developers, who might take shortcuts and
        make mistakes. NWRFC added they have much more confidence in this build, and in fact has
        now moved off the SA to their MC00 live system; they have no objections to distributing the
        Beta build as-is to AB and CN. Most of the group concurred that the Beta release will go to
        ABRFC and CNRFC on schedule next week without the patch; however, given that item
        #343 (an issue for ABRFC) is expected in the patch, ABRFC wants to think it over some
        more.

        Question 2: when will we see the patch? Erik said on the Beta call today it would be
        delivered Mon or Tues next week to Deltares-USA (Edwin). How long will it stay with

Edwin before reaching NE/NW? Assuming next Monday afternoon, it will be installed and in testing Tuesday, then it could be made available to RFCs on Wednesday who could install and begin testing as early as Thursday. Edwin needs to coordinate with Erik.

Question 3: is there a reason why we limited the Beta release to just 2 of the 4 RFCs? It was done this way to minimize the potential impact on developers. It's much easier to manage issues coming from 2 RFCs than 4.

Edwin noted that he and Andre are working on a proposal for the RFCs regarding a future approach to testing CHPS releases. The proposal will be delivered in the near future, followed by a discussion with the RFCs. At issue is where test responsibility should lie/how much we should expect RFCs to test.

NWRFC asked about availability of test procedures for this release. Deltares just received feedback from OHD, but these are related to the existing/June tests. Chris noted there's little point distributing test procedures to the Beta sites at the time the release goes out to all RFCs…. Beta sites need them to do Beta testing. The test procedures are mostly the same as for the June release, with some extras for new features/bug fixes. Edwin will get the September-specific test procedures out to the CAT today, without making RFCs wait for the entire document.

Action: Edwin to provide test procedures (new tests only) for the September release to the CAT today.

2. Health check on Support Log (other than Beta issues) + ABRFC status

ABRFC went live again this morning. There have been no problems although operations took a little longer than usual because of things like waiting for data, problems with some of the mods, slight rustiness with the new system, etc. We hope to remain in operational use for as long as possible.

On the log…. Chris has noted that ABRFC has 3 open items and that by definition one of them (#325) is now overdue and should be converted to a Critical priority.

Open items for ABRFC include:
- #325, High, submitted on 8/31; ABRFC says #325 *seems* to be fixed, but it's an ongoing test to ensure it's really fixed. Additionally MikeB just reported a new issue to chps_ops.
- #330, High, submitted on 9/8; needs to be raised to Critical. The rolling barrel doesn't seem to be running right on the FSS; AB had to delete the (13GB) pi_service local data store when space filled up. The root cause is the pi_service is effectively an OC running in 'headless' mode so doesn't behave the same way as other OCs. The workaround is for ABRFC to manually (or cron) delete/recreate the space –OR- to manually run the rolling barrel. Meanwhile Deltares will include a software fix in the patch so the pi_service knows to do its own clean-up.
- #342, High, submitted on 9/15. This one is waiting for RandyR. /data is filling up on chps3. It's the same size as on the FSSs; the OCs are smaller. It can stay as High.

Chris asked MarkG about the status of the FogBugz license purchase. There seems to have been a problem with the OHD charge code – Mark received a report that the purchase bounced due to insufficient funds. Chris said she'd talk to Kathy. Chris says her Plan B (starting Monday 9/27) is

to have a developer on Lee's team install and customize the latest Bugzilla interface and move forward with that.

Action: HSD to raise #330 to Critical.
Action: Chris to talk to KathyO to find out what's going wrong with the funding for FogBugz.

3. Other items

RobS has made a block reservation at a hotel in Taunton. Chris will forward details. The hotel was recently a Holiday Inn but the sign is covered up and the hotel is now the "Taunton Inn and Conference Center". MarkG and DaveR are staying there this week without problems.

Action: Chris to forward hotel info for the Taunton workshop to the CATs.

Next meeting: Thursday Sept 23, 2010