

**NWS Hydrology Forecast Verification Team  
Teleconference Notes  
11/29/2007**

**Agenda**

- Presentation of the slides by Julie Demargne

**Questions and Comments**

**Slide #3:** regarding the progress made by the WR Hydrologic Verification team, the team has used IVP ob8.2 to develop a variety of verification graphics for their case studies. The first case study was presented by Brenda Alcorn and Bill Reed from CBRFC on 11/27/07.  
**Action:** Kevin will send out the website for the WR verification team where the team interim report and the slides from the CBRFC case study are available.

**Slide #7:** the team charter will be updated to define the final date as January 31, 2009. All team members are welcome to send comments or suggestions to Julie D. about the team charter.

**Slide #9:** the RFC verification focal points are welcome to choose another person from their office to work on the verification case study and participate in the conference calls. It will expand the verification expertise at each office and will help get at least 1 participant from each RFC for all the teleconferences.  
Also a new person, Yuqiong Liu, will join the HEP group in HSMB in January 08 and will be a technical advisor for this team. She will work with James B. and Julie D. on the EVS enhancements and support for the RFCs.

**Slide #11:** the proposed agenda may need to be modified to start working on the IVP exercises when all the RFCs have installed IVP ob8.2. The IVP installation should also automatically modify the archive database as required by the new IVP version.  
**Action:** Julie D. will check with Randy Rieman for the AWIPS ob8.2 installation schedule.  
**The RFC verification focal points should check with their AWIPS program manager to schedule the AWIPS ob8.2 installation as early as possible.**  
Julie D. will send out a reminder to the team.

In order to have IVP ob8.2 at all the RFCs before doing the exercises, the team might do first the presentation of some case studies from the WR verification team in February. (Note for these 3 RFCs: these case studies could be the same or an expanded version of the ones presented to the WR team).

For the presentation of the verification case studies, some guidelines will be offered on which metrics and graphics could be used. However flexibility is necessary to let each RFC propose a meaningful way to present verification results to their users. The end goal of the team will be to develop standardized verification strategies by identifying strengths and weaknesses in the metrics and graphics presented for each case study.

The team will need to coordinate the case studies to work on a broad range of forecasts and verification questions. A few RFCs that are currently testing some of the ensemble forecasting prototypes (RFC/GFS subsystem ensemble preprocessor or HMOS) could do a verification case study for ensemble forecasts using EVS.

Regarding EVS, this prototype is currently enhanced by James B. integrating some of the recommendations from the verification workshop last August and has been delivered to a few RFCs for testing purposes. It will be merged with IVP and integrated into the Experimental Ensemble Forecasting System (XEFS) prototype as a unified National Baseline Verification System (NBVS). XEFS is currently developed by HSEB along with FEWS for AWIPS2. Because of the new architecture and environment, no interim prototype will be delivered from XEFS for the next 2 or 3 years. That's why the EVS prototype working with the current NWSRFS system and ESP capabilities (outside XEFS) will be enhanced by HSMB and delivered to a few RFCs for testing and experimental application during 2008. The other RFCs will get the NBVS prototype for deterministic and ensemble forecast verification with XEFS and FEWS. OHD recognizes the frustration of some RFCs not to have any supported tool to verify ensemble forecasts. However, the resources are too limited to deliver the EVS prototype to all RFCs and support it.

**Slide #12:** this slide lists the different items to be part of the archiving survey. Verification will be added to the information potentially archived by the RFCs. Forecast lead time indicates for which lead time (e.g., up to 2 days, or seasonal) a forecast is issued and archived (with potentially different archiving processes for the different lead times).

**Action:** Julie D. will send out the archiving survey (Word document) to all the RFCs by Friday, 11/30/07.

The RFCs will fill out the survey by Thursday, 12/13/07, so that the team could discuss the survey results in the next teleconference.

**Slide #13:** the verification case studies are selected to address verification questions for key users and for specific forecast products. Also data availability could be critical since large sample sizes are needed to get robust verification metrics. It might be necessary to pool data from different basins or different events (according to specific criteria; for example, above a given threshold value).

**Action:** each RFC will develop 1 or 2 slides to present their case study at the next teleconference. The slides should indicate the key users, the verification questions to address, and the forecasts to be verified.

**Slide #14:** before the next meeting on 12/18/07, the verification focal points should have filled out the survey (by 12/13/07) and develop 1 or 2 slides to propose a case study.

**Action:** Julie will send out an email to the team to propose dates for the meeting in January 08.

Next teleconference will be **Tuesday, December 18 from 11am to 12:30 pm EST.**