

**ROSS Partner Conference Call Notes
December 18, 2003**

Participants:

NICC:	Matt DeLong, Linda Roos
Rocky Mountain:	Rob Juhola
Alaska:	Bob Dickerson
Great Basin:	Karen Feary, Lonnie Williams
Southern Area	Pat Boucher
Southwest:	Kenan Jaycox
Northwest:	Phil Cardin
Northern Rockies:	Roseanna Finley
California:	Tom Evans, Julie Vogan
ROSS Team:	Jon Skeels, Neal Hitchcock, Nancy DeLong, Rod Chaffee, Beth Grey Cloud, Rex Alford, Sue Roussopoulos

Note: Any information received after the call is shown in bold type below.

Business Community Update – Neal Hitchcock

- Happy Holidays. Encourage all of you to get away from work, get some rest and spend time with family and friends.
- Kim Christenson has been selected as the NICC Manager. She will be taking over the day-to-day responsibilities as Business Lead on the ROSS Team. I will stay involved with the budget, political and interagency issues that arise.
- National Coordinator's meeting (last week) included a lot of good information, updates and discussion regarding ROSS program management, security issues, documentation requirements and planned activities for the next six to nine months.

Project Update – Jon Skeels

- Also wish a happy and safe holiday season to everyone.
- The National Coordinator's meeting went very well. We have issues on the ROSS side that we are working through but there is also recognition that existing business practices played into some of the issues we faced this past season. We are putting together a CD of all the ROSS presentations from this meeting. The CD will be sent to each GACC to copy and distribute as they wish.
- We are approaching the testing phase of version 2.0 (late January). We are still looking at release in late February. As we have discussed, there will be no substantial changes to the user interface but huge hardware and architecture changes. Many users have asked for the functionality to select a range of items by holding down the Shift key and clicking the first and last item with the mouse (as in Microsoft and other applications). This ability will be included in 2.0.
- Version 2.1 requirements have been determined and the issues that will be addressed were presented at the Coordinator's Meeting. We will make this information available soon.
- Data cleanup activity is progressing.

Question (Linda Roos): Understood that a Report format was being developed to be transmitted at the end of each day and include all NICC transactions for the day.

Response (Jon): This won't be done as a Report. Instead we will put the data where you can access it. Only one additional Report will be built for next season. The existing Reports will be enhanced. Our efforts are focusing on the Data Warehouse. The second week of January Matt Braunschweig and Kelly Keyes (LMCO) will spend four days at NICC discussing these issues.

Question (Sue Roussopoulos): Ray Nelson would like to know how access to the Data Warehouse will be managed. Will user accounts and passwords be required? Will Teams and MAC groups be able to access the data?

Response (Jon): These decisions have not been finalized but will be discussed during Matt and Kelly's visit to NICC next month.

Question (Nancy DeLong): Can you explain to the group the difference between the data cleanup spreadsheets that users and SMEs have been working on and the data letter that was transmitted by the Helpdesk?

Response (Jon): Have to leave the call. Rex will respond.

Response (Rex): The letter that went out from the Helpdesk dealt with data maintenance (e.g., deleting unwanted resources) that will occur after the database is cleaned up. The spreadsheets were prepared to help us accomplish the cleanup by merging duplicate resources and assigning the merged record to the correct dispatch center.

Question (Phil Cardin): Units are wondering about the status of the duplicate overhead data effort.

Response (Rex): After user input there were still some unanswered questions and some conflicting responses. The SMEs have been trying to fill in the holes that remain. We're getting close to completing this effort.

Implementation Team Update – Nancy DeLong / Beth GreyCloud

- A link to a sample Training Path (EDRC) has been posted at the bottom of the [Implementation / Training](#) tab on the ROSS website. Click on the links for "Test paths" and "demo". Please take a look and give us your feedback. The remaining Training Paths should be available in the next four to six weeks.
- We are preparing a Lessons Learned / Watchout Situations document. Not all the issues uncovered this past season will be addressed in version 2.1. This document will highlight known issues, limitations and workarounds. It should be completed in the next couple days and will be posted on the website. Again, take a look and give us some feedback.

Question (Sue Roussopoulos): Anticipate that this will be an evolving document. When new information is added can we update the web with a visual reminder to users (such as a flashing New Info button with the date)?

Response (Nancy): Yes. We now have three individuals that have access to update the website so this shouldn't be a problem.

Question (Julie Vogan): Couldn't find a link to the Student / Instructor Workbook tabs on the ROSS Instructor's Site. Also, some of the links for Student / Instructor Scenarios return a "Not Found" error.

Response (Beth): Will look into this and get back to you.

Business Team Update – Rod Chaffee

- Jon covered it pretty well. The SMEs are preparing for testing of version 2.0 (four weeks beginning in late January).
- We are finalizing the requirements documents for version 2.1.

ROSS Partners – Sue Roussopoulos

- Happy Holidays. Talk to you all in the New Year. The next conference call will be January 15, 2004 at 1400E/1300C/1200M/1100P/1000AK