

**ROSS Partner Conference Call Notes  
January 15, 2004**

**Participants:**

<b>Alaska:</b>	Bob Dickerson
<b>Eastern Area:</b>	Gloria Pellin, Kathy Miles
<b>Great Basin:</b>	Kathy Wiegard, Lani Williams
<b>Northwest:</b>	Phil Cardin, Annette (NOC)
<b>Northern Rockies:</b>	Ray Nelson, Rosanna Finley
<b>ROSS Team:</b>	Jon Skeels, Nancy DeLong, Rod Chaffee, Rex Alford, Sue Roussopoulos

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

**Reports Update – Rex Alford**

Our top priority is to make data available for ad hoc reporting. We will be coordinating with local dispatchers to looking for holes in the data fields we will make available for ad hoc reporting. Only two new canned reports will be released in version 2.1. However, we may get some additional report writing help. If so, we plan to clean up current reports that we are not satisfied with and add additional reports. Matt Braunschweig (LMCO) will be posting data to an FTP site. Our plan is to refresh the data every six hours. This will depend on the impacts to ROSS and the level of effort involved. If possible, our goal would be to refresh more frequently.

**Question (Phil Cardin):** Where do we stand on the data cleanup process? We haven't seen any merging of duplicate data yet.

**Response (Rex and Jon):** The spreadsheets are being submitted to LMCO by GACC. Some GACCs have not completed their responses. Matt Braunschweig and Kelly Keyes have been focused on the Data Warehouse. It may be early February before they begin the cleanup. We will speak with them and let you know what to expect.

**NOTE: All of the GACC responses for overhead duplicates have now been received. LCMO is error checking the responses and will begin to process the data soon. Aircraft, Crew and Equipment responses are still coming in from the field. As soon as duplicate data is merged we will be able to proceed with needed data deletion.**

**Question (Rosanna Finley):** When clean up occurs will data be deleted from production?

**Response (Rex):** Yes. Assignment history will be consolidated to correct record and the duplicates will be deleted. Keep in mind, the primary focus of this effort is data cleanup, not data deletion. *(Rex and Rosanna to continue discussion off line).*

**Project Update – Jon Skeels**

- About to begin testing of Version 2.0 which will be quite different than testing we've done before. Our goal is to make sure data is migrated properly. Performance should be better. Java Swing will enable us to implement drag and drop functionality. However, accessibility requirements may prevent us from doing this.
- The requirements documents for Version 2.1 are nearly finished. When they are complete we will publish a list of the changes coming in 2.1. Release is targeted for early June. We

don't anticipate the need for a lot of additional training for 2.1 because we are cleaning up things that caused issues last season and the functionality being added is not particularly complex (like Roster was last year).

- Rod and Jon will begin planning for Version 2.2. Development work will begin this summer (after release of 2.1) and release is targeted for fall 2004. We will not plan any more major releases in the spring.

### **Implementation Team Update – Nancy DeLong**

- Two Dispatch training sessions this week (MO and NM). Check [Training Schedule](#) for upcoming sessions.
- The “[Lessons Learned in 2004](#)” document has been finalized and posted to the web site. This will be a dynamic document (we'll let you know when it's updated). The document was also sent to Trainers for this week's sessions.
- Following up on Julie Vogan's request for document to print tabs for Training Workbooks. We will have it posted on the Instructor's web page.

**NOTE: The tabs were posted on January 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Business Team Update – Rod Chaffee**

- Version 2.0 testing starts January 26<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled to last four weeks. Release is targeted for early March.  
**NOTE: Commencement of testing will be delayed by one week due to a Versata version issue. We don't know (at this time) whether this will delay deployment or not.**
- As Jon mentioned, we will publish a document of changes coming in Version 2.1 once the requirements documents have been finalized.
- The ROSS Change Board held their 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in November which was to familiarize them with the information technology change process administered by the FS, USDA and OMB. Change Board members Ray Nelson and Beth Mason gave a great presentation at National Coordinator's Meeting in December. The Board held a conference call on January 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the funding items for the FY 2006 submission. The notes from that call will be posted on the new [Change Board page](#) of the ROSS website which also contains the Change Plan and contact information.

### **Training / Practice Discussion**

- **Comments (Ray Nelson):** Just completed a D-110 session and there was a lot of interest in ROSS. We used a short ROSS presentation supplied by Beth. The presentation was fine but suggest that we need to present more detail. The focus should be on New Request screen which is the most relevant to the EDRC function. Also, Northern Rockies found Practice sessions valuable last year and plans to hold Wednesday sessions again this year. Invite other GACCs to join in.
- **Response (Lani Williams):** D-310 course rewrite is underway. D-110 is next. The Dispatch Steering Committee is addressing the level to which ROSS should be incorporated in D-110, 310 and 510. Their thoughts on ROSS material to cover in D-110 include New Request, Travel and Demob. Courses are rewritten on a 5-year timetable but changes to ROSS application are much more frequent. The staffing / funding of the current organization will not allow training material updates to keep current with the ROSS application.

- **Response (Nancy DeLong):** Thank you for the input on the ROSS presentation for D-110. Will relay your comments to Beth. Thrilled to hear that NR is planning Practice sessions and hope that other GACCs follow suit. We may need to coordinate so not everyone is trying to practice on Wednesdays. The Dispatch Steering Committee is also discussing the possibility of having a separate course on how to use ROSS that would be a requirement before taking D-310. We are aware of the problem with incorporating up-to-date ROSS information into the “D” courses. When the ROSS Team goes away there will still be a need to keep the courses updated and someone will need to fill that role.
- **Response (Jon Skeels):** Also, please remind the players that Practice (and Training) are hosted on older, smaller, slower servers. We need to manage their frustration level with system speed. Once Production ver. 2.0 is deployed on the new servers, we may be able host Practice / Training over to the server where Production ver. 1.2.6 currently resides. This should enhance Practice / Training performance

**ROSS Partners – Sue Roussopoulos**

The next conference call will be February 19, 2004 at 1400E/1300C/1200M/1100P/1000AK