

ROSS Partner Conference Call Notes
January 16, 2003

Participants:

- ROSS Team—Jon Skeels, Nancy DeLong, Mary Ann Szymoniak, Neal Hitchcock
- NICC—Rick Squires, Dave Hendren, Lani Williams,
- Eastern—Marcia Smith, Kathy Miles, Ruta Glinski, Laura McIntyre-Kelly, Julie Landreth
- Eastern Great Basin—Stacy Lensing, Karen Feary,
- Western Great Basin—Laura ? (didn't get last name)
- Northwest—Sheila Barry
- Northern Rockies—Rosanna Finley
- Southwest—Sue Roussopoulos and 4 students from the Prescott training session
- Rocky Mountain—Debbie Bozarth, Frank Bedonie
- Southern—Kim Brookshire
- Alaska—Lindsey Lien, Rick Dupuis
- CA—no one on

Note: Additional “post-conference call information” is shown in bold text below.

Project update—Jon:

Progress continues on development work.

- Version 1.2.5—
 - Lockheed is currently doing testing (integration and system)
 - SME testing starts on January 28 and will continue through 3rd week in February. Release of that version depends on how the testing goes.
 - A few highlights include: Roster, pre-positioning and a few other fixes
 - Encouraged by what we've seen
- Version 1.2.6; a few highlights include—
 - Notifier enhanced
 - Initial report issues will get cleaned up
 - Enhancements on edit request capability – how requests are placed & filled externally
 - Reserve a block of request numbers
 - Managing requests for an incident – particularly for EFF/AD firefighters
 - Moving organizations (except home dispatch) under Resource Item to the Person screen
 - Moving incidents from one dispatch center to another

- Aerially deployed resources will allow user to have a deployment list; can quickly order and fill, but will not have to complete names of who jumped until flight is complete.
- Fixes and many other things; Jon will have a list at the Partner meeting.

Partner/Primary Contact Meeting, January 29-20, 2003—Jon:

- Please let Jon know your agenda ideas
- Let Andy know additional names of attendees so we can insure a large enough conference room
- Will demo 1.2.5; provide a listing of what is included with the next two versions

Import (Redcard and IQS)—Jon:

- Continues to be a challenge
- Access to these imports has been temporarily disconnected because of a problem—on the 2nd Redcard import, individual qualifications are showing up that persons don't have
- Critical that the qualification files (from Redcard and IQS) have the actual social security number (not dashes, zeros or letters) because that is how the file finds the correct person when the import into ROSS is performed.
- IQS has another issue and we are not sure if it is related to the Redcard issue.
- Question from Kathy Miles—we had a name change for a person and when it imported, ROSS didn't like it as well as when a social security number was corrected. Answer from Jon—we will check into it. What should have happened was that you would get two files for each individual, and then you would delete the old, or incorrect one.

Security—Jon:

- OMB is doing audit checks on all automated systems and if those systems don't meet their requirements, the system is shut down. Steve Simon is attending a Security training session this week and is getting lots of information.
- No user profile should have data admin privileges. Must follow the law.
- Every ROSS user needs to sign a "Rules of Behavior" document. The document will be provided.
- DMS will have to undergo changes. Messenger is being replaced with a more secure system and personal user ID's will need to be established. We are checking on the ability for multiple users to access one inbox. DMS was originally approved because it had generic profiles—that will have to change because OMB does not allow generic profiles/passwords.
- More coming.

ROSS Release letters—Jon:

- FS Release letter has been issued; will be posted on the web
- NPS, FWS, and BIA will be issuing letters
- BLM letter will take a bit longer. Their approval process says they can't issue the letter until the process is complete (non-fire policies). ROSS is moving through their process. Let us know if you need assistance with this issue in your areas.

IRM Investment Approval Process (OMB driven)—Jon:

- Has become much more complex. An A-11 process must be followed which includes an Exhibit 300. This identifies many different areas but the purpose is basically to provide a business case why the project is needed.
- Initial Exhibit 300 submission for ROSS is in April, should be finalized by August.
- Once the process is complete, it is approval for us.

Response to ROSS inquiries—Jon:

- We have been asked if we could personally respond to inquiries and unfortunately, since we average about 20+ a day, we don't have the staff to do that. What we are doing is putting together a document, which will include FAQ's. It will be distributed at the Partner/Primary Contact meeting.

National Resource Update—Jon:

- Rick Squires is trying to get this information updated but he needs help from you to make it happen.
- Action: Partners communicate with dispatch offices to respond to Rick's message.

Implementation/Training Update—Nancy:

- Training sessions are going well. Had a good test last week with 4 training sessions; a very big problem/issue was solved and we didn't have the "Wednesday problem" this week because of it. We appreciate all of the instructors and students conducting the test. Having 77 people logged on from 4 different locations in many different organizations is something we can't simulate.
- Had some issues this week in Prescott that may be attributed to the "gate keeper" in Kansas City. We are checking into this.
- Training materials have been updated and will be posted on the web soon.
- Stacy Lensing has been working in the ROSS Boise office and we really appreciate her help.

Lockheed Staff—Jon:

Sad to report that one of the programmers, Arman Ohanyan was killed in an automobile accident before Christmas. This has been difficult for the group but they are doing okay. Paul Condit appreciates all of the kind words and thoughts that have gone their way. An article is in the upcoming newsletter.

Infrastructure Update—Jon:

Steve Simon is not available this week. The only thing to report is that we have some new equipment on order.

Business Team Update—Nancy:

Rod had another conference call but Jon has probably covered most of the issues.

Partner Update—Nancy:

Andy is at the Southern Area Center Managers meeting this week but had nothing to report.

Newsletter Update—Mary Ann Szymoniak:

- This edition is a bit late due to the holidays
- Should be available within the week **The Newsletter was posted on Friday January 17 and was distributed via the ROSS Partners mailing list.**

Q. Debbie Bozarth—what is happening with the Brio report issue?

A. Jon—The FS is now upgraded to Internet Explorer 5.5, SP2, which means that it won't work with the current version of Brio (the ROSS Report software). Solution is to use Netscape Communicator but nothing newer than version 4.79. Brio has a new version and Lockheed hopes to have it installed at NITC within a month. This version is supposed to take care of the problem.

Update—the Forest Service is going to stop automatic install of the new Internet Explorer version for dispatch offices but some may have already been installed. A solution for this is being discussed—however, going back to an older version is not a good thing to do. Stay tuned. If you have problems, please contact the help desk.

Business community update—Neal:

- Lots of changes coming, don't freak out over them, ROSS is able to handle them and we'll get through them
- Encouraged by all of the practicing and testing that is going on. We'll be ready when its time to "pull the trigger."

Next call—February 20th, same time, same number.