

NATCA Safety & Tech Update Week of February 14, 2017

ENROUTE AUTOMATION MODERNIZATION (ERAM): Julio Henriques (ZNY) leads the ERAM efforts for NATCA. This update is provided by Dan Mullen (ZID).

The biggest challenge we've faced over the past few weeks has been the deployment of EAD6002, the next release of the ERAM software. After delays in November and December, ZLC and ZSE resumed Keysite activities Jan 8th. The software itself performed pretty well, but the changes to the data block caused problems. Specifically, the new Visual Comm Indicator (VCI) and left-justified data block made it hard to maintain situational awareness when working complex traffic. The National User Team (NUT) and CHI Team reworked the data block CHI and made the changes needed to redeploy the software. It will be ready for release in mid March.

The delay in deploying EAD600 will probably cause a slip to the upcoming releases also. EAD700 will likely move to a June or July delivery, which is a concern because ERAM Tech Refresh is dependent on that release. Much of the ERAM hardware is at the end of life and needs to be replaced before failures increase, so any delay increases our risk.

The Jan 23rd test of Airborne Reroute (ABRR) uncovered some problems with the way ERAM and TFMS (Traffic Flow Mgmt System) work with Conformant Routes. Changes are needed in both softwares and ABRR will be available again beginning in April. Each ARTCC will need to be on EAD6002 before that site can use ABRR. Traffic Management Coordinators (TMCs) from each ARTCC attended an ABRR/PDRR familiarization at the Tech Center in January. These TMCs will act as Subject Matter Experts when their sites beginning using ABRR/PDRR.

The NUT has been working on Problem Statements and Operational Use Cases related to:

- Revisions to the ICAO Equipment Template
- An electronic version of the "Horse Collar"
- Path Stretch
- NEXRAD Outage Notifications
- GIM-S Transition Speeds

The next NUT quarterly meeting is scheduled for the week of March 6.

HUMAN PERFORMANCE: Jay Barrett (MIA) is the Article 114 Representative for Human Performance. His report is below.

Human Factors Activities

N90 -An agreement has been reached with the facility to begin the certification standards training. The facility will train the OJTIs, trainees, supervisors and OMs for two of the 5 areas. Training began on Jan 31st. In most cases there will only be 1 or 2 employees in each class due to staffing issues. This is a 3 day training that involves material on how to use the standards, an in depth introduction to the standards and 5 hands on training simulations using Falcon replays and applying the new standards. The training should be completed on or about first week of June. There have not been final discussions on how the remaining 3 areas will transition to the new standards.

Team Resource Management workshop - As reported last month, this workshop is substantially complete. MIA originally asked for this class, but will be unable to support delivery until October or later. We are currently looking for a facility that would be willing to let us demo the product this summer. We still have not assimilated the materials the CF folks had offered to provide us, but I believe that we may find some clarity after I have briefed the NEB on the content of the class. As a reminder this is a tactical workshop that will only be delivered when requested. There is no intention at this time to make it a nationwide rollout.

Academy training - We are working toward inserting human performance materials into the Academy ASAP. Our challenge is finding the most appropriate location in the curriculum to deliver the material and also the delivery vehicle. Our intent is to deliver the first few opportunities in person and then evaluate what will be the most effective way going forward. We believe our materials are most effective when there is interactive discussion and questions are generated. Death by power point is unacceptable.

The HF roundtable - met recently and discussions took place as to the best use of research money left in FY 2017. This group includes all the organizations in the agency that do HF research. The tech center, CAMI, ANG, a few other subdivisions of the PMO and our office form this group in an effort to reduce any duplication of efforts and prioritize where the resources are best utilized. This effort is part of a broader plan to have a central clearing house for HF activities where there is at least one office that knows what is taking place any given time.

HF Coordination - I have recently visited the tech center and met many of the HF scientists who are doing HF work. This is part of my effort to gain an understanding of all HF activities throughout the Agency. I have also coordinated with our PMO, AJV, and Nextgen reps on keeping an open dialogue when they encounter HF activities taking place in their respective programs. This is a fairly complex undertaking, but necessary if the HP office is going to achieve our goal of raising human performance awareness in every corner of the Agency. My next trip will be to OKC to meet the CAMI researchers.

Investigations -The initial focus for HF investigations will be on supporting the SRTs and AJI-131 investigations. Currently, they are averaging 3-4 SRTs week, launching around 30 times per year. Our involvement would be twofold. First to bring a more human centered approach to the investigation. We see it more as a discussion and less of an investigation. The problem being that employees who are interviewed rarely share HF data due to a number of concerns such as privacy, retaliation, fear, etc. Second, to provide various flavors of reports depending on data uncovered. We have also been asked to provide HP training to the investigations teams and possibly ERCs.

Health & Wellness

Still working on the ATC survival guide. Plans are to distribute this to new hires as they transition from the academy to their first facility.

Met with 2 doctors from medical to discuss stress research that has been performed by the Agency. We discovered that the military has spent an enormous amount and time and money developing training modules for members of the armed forces. We are making efforts to connect with each of the branches and see if they would be willing to share their materials and any lessons learned. The doctors were very interested to know if we were going to include materials on healthy drinking. They are concerned that too many employees have never been given materials that speak to what is and is not healthy. We made no commitments and will discuss further internally as to whether something like that would be a good fit into our Health & Wellness scope.

CFS - We are working with the Fully Charged workgroup to develop a list of questions around work-life activities that may be asked by the ATO communications team at CFS. The goal is to have video clips to integrate into the Fully charged campaign for the upcoming year.

Fatigue

ZOA - we have not started the sleep study yet. We are ready to deploy the study to ZOA when AJI purchases the actigraphs and signs off on the MOU. I am hopeful there will be some movement this week as I discussed this last week with AJI leadership.

Academy - currently there is a 2hr module being taught at the academy for fatigue awareness. Our PhD has reviewed the substance and believes there is more recent information and that it could be delivered in less time. We will be working on submitting this to the Academy along with our other HP materials being developed.

COE

There have been requests from the tech monitors in many of the COE projects to do surveys of the workforce. Tom Adcock and I will coordinate with each of the projects to streamline and consolidate these as they are presented to us. We are concerned about survey overload.

INTEGRATED DISPLAY SYSTEM REPLACEMENT (IDS-R): Richie Smith (N90) leads NATCA's efforts on the IDS-R project as the Article 114 Representative. Below is Mr. Smith's report.

After a successful keysite release of NIDS software build 3.6.1 at I90 the build was nationally released. While each network is responsible for their own upgrade there are a few facilities that the program office would like to see up and running as soon as possible. Networks such as F11, MCO and I90 all have experienced issues that build 3.6.1 addresses with fixes. The only way to prove the fixes is in the live environment.

PHL, after many delays centered around ASOS issues, is scheduled to go IOC during the first week of March. This network has been a challenge to the program office in almost every imaginable way but things seem to be straightened out and hopefully the network can move forward.

The new operating system, which contains few operationally impactful changes, is still scheduled for a tentative mid March release date.

OSHA: Mike Odryna (ZBW) is the Chairman of NATCA's OSHA Committee. He has provided an update for the membership.

New Southwest Region OSHA Rep.

Deb Stewart from Corpus Christi Tower has been appointed the in Southwest Region OSHA Rep. Deb has extensive OSH knowledge from working as the

OSHA Rep for her facility. Along with the OSHA Committee Deb will continue her role as the Southwest Region CISM Rep.

CFS

He OSHA committee will be attending CFS again this year and will be manning a booth. Should you have any questions stop by and chat with us.

Headset Tones

The OSHA, OWCP, NVS Art 48 Rep., and the Region X Headset Engineer met to discuss the framework of a National Workgroup to study the effects of Headset tones on our Bargaining Unit. The plan is for the workgroup to work with the Agency on developing a comprehensive strategy for handling headset tones. Once a strategy is formulated, the group member will act as subject matter experts on the issue.

POC: (Jason Grider, Mike Odryna, Jon Shedden, Don Smith)

New Orleans Lakefront Tower Mold Issues

The remediation of the Mold is underway. The contractor has attempted to obtain final clearance 3 times and has failed to reach required Mold spore minimums. The contractor, the Independent IH and the Agency are working to develop a solution. Once completed the build back will begin.

POC: (Mike Odryna, Geoff Bacci, Nichol Bell, Lawrence Pharr, Deb Stewart)

Dallas Love (DAL) Tower Mold Issues

An ongoing water intrusion issue is being investigated at DAL Tower. Several employees had voiced concerns about the IAQ at the facility that is caused by areas within the facility that have been showing signs of Water Intrusion for many years. The Agency hired an independent Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) to investigate. The CIH found an area within the Breakroom that showed signs of mold. Also, areas in the stairwell that appear to have been moist in the past. They also identified areas outside the tower where the chalk is failing and must be repaired. The Agency is working on a plan to move forward.

POC: (Shannon Smith, Mike Odryna, Deb Stewart)

Great Falls (GTF) Tower/TRACON Mold Issues

Shawn Kramer received reports of water continuously infiltrating the first and second floors of the facility at Fort Smith. It turned out that TechOps was aware of the problem and allowed it to continue with plans to fix it in the next fiscal year. The FACREP was instructed to immediately file a UCR. Subsequently the FAA appeared on site to initiate a short-term fix to the leaks and remove the wet sheetrock and carpet.

POC: (Shawn Kramer)

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) MOU Webinar

The OSHA Committee, along with Geoff Bacci, held a webinar regarding the Indoor Air Quality MOU on February 9th. The telecom unfortunately was capped at 25 people. We will be redoing the webinar again on a later date. Watch for posting in the NATCA Insider and the OSHA Committee Facebook page for registration information.

POC (Mike Odryna)

OSH issue reporting

If you have an OSH issue at your facility, use your normal reporting process. I.e. OCC, UCR etc. Also, contact you NATCA Regional OSHA rep. The regional OSH Rep's work as liaisons between the lines of business.

If you have a concern about something occurring at your facility, you can fill out the following form to request a member of the OSHA Committee contact you to discuss your concerns.

[OSHA Committee Information Request Form](#)

Committee Membership:

We still have a vacancy Great Lakes Region.

POC: (Mike Odryna)

ALB ATCT Water Intrusion and Mold

The Agency along with NATCA continues attempts to determine the source of chronic leaks in the Tower.

POC: (CJ Jacques)

PHL ATCT Housekeeping Issues

The Agency along with NATCA have started to develop a strategy to ensure the cleaning requirements set forth in the janitorial contract and TechOps requirements for equipment cleaning are adhered to.

POC: (CJ Jacques)

Regional OSHECCOMs

The NATCA Air Traffic Regional Reps and Region X reps attended their respective Regional OSHECCOM meetings throughout January and February in the Great Lakes, Southwest, Central, Northwest Mountain, New England and Southern Regions. Minutes from the Regional OSHECCOM meetings can be found at:

[OSHECCOM KSN Site](#)

NATCA Rep. OSHA Training

Mike Odryna met with the agency to update NATCA Rep training requirements and offerings. An updated list of training available for all NATCA OSH Reps will be available ASAP

POC: (Mike Odryna, Dominic Petrelli)

Bargaining Unit Reps/QCG Inspectors and/ SECM Meeting

Mike Odryna, Dominic Petrelli, and CJ Jacques attended a joint BU/QCG/SECM meeting in Atlanta the week of Jan 23rd. Discussion will include OSH Support and QCG WIT inspection procedures.

POC: (Mike Odryna, Dominic Petrelli, CJ Jacques)

National OSHECCOM Meeting

Mike Odryna, Dominic Petrelli and Larry Trottini will attend the National OSHECCOM meeting on March 15th and 16th.

POC: (Mike Odryna, Larry Trottini, Dominic Petrelli)

Current Facility issues being worked by the committee and others.

FAY: Fumes	NEW: IAQ Mold
FAI FSS: New Roof and HVAC Unit	YNG: Roof Replacement
Alaska FSS: OTZ Housing/FAI HVAC-ROOF Replacement	ARR Overall Facility Condition
GRR: Odor, ASR Contamination	PHF: Mold/IAQ
NWM Regional Office: Water Quality Issues: New Regional Office Build	New NWM Regional Office Design
DAL ATC: Water intrusion and Mold	SGF Mold/IAQ
HSV: IAQ, Fumes	ZAN: Seismic Upgrade
DSM SSC Office: Comprehensive Mold Evaluation	FSM: Water Intrusion, IAQ
NWM Regional Office: Water Testing	SGF ATCT: HVAC Project
GTF: Mold	Cape TRCAON: Sewer flies, Odor, Plumbing issues.
Mansfield Tower: Water, Security, FLS	ZAN: Drinking Water Issues
CRP: IAQ	PTK: Mold Remediation
DTW: IAQ Investigation	Tallahassee: Water Leaks
San Juan Tower: CAB Glass	Wilmington: Doors Broken

Replacement	
ABE: Overall House Keeping	PHL: Overall House Keeping, Rodents
BTV: Post Remediation Rebuild	BGR: Ongoing remediation Efforts

VOR MINIMUM OPERATING NETWORK (MON): John Vogelsang (P31) is the Article 114 Representative on the VOR MON project. His update is below.

The following non-rule making studies have been initiated since the first of the year for VOR's scheduled for discontinuance this fiscal year and FY18.

CIC-Chico, CA
 CZQ-Clovis, CA
 HYP-El Nido Merced, CA
 BQM-Bowman Louisville, KY
 BFD-Bradford, PA
 VWV-Waterville, OH
 FAH-Falls Sheboygan, WI

If any of these VORs affect your facility and you have not received any information on the proposed decommissioning, please contact me at vormon@natca.net.

Not much other news on the program this month. There will be a meeting in OKC at the end of March with a small group from the VOR MON program and the PBN program to discuss the decommissioning's for the next two years.