

# Current State of GOES-R/JPSS User Readiness and the Operations Proving Ground



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**GOES-R/JPSS Proving Ground / User-Readiness Meeting  
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# Background of OPG Satellite Liaison Position

- Located in Kansas City, MO within the NWS Operations Proving Ground
- Position held since November 2011 - 2 years and 8 months
- Formal interactions have taken place with NWS meteorologists at:
  - ERH, SRH, CRH, WRH
  - Over 30 WFOs
- Satellite “Focal Point” for NWS CONUS Regions and Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs)
- Assist in providing
  - AWIPS and AWIPS 2 ingest/configuration directions
  - NWS forecaster training
  - Liaison between CIs-NWS for (mostly) GOES-R future capabilities

- A Satellite Liaison training plan or guide was not (and still is not) in place...this approach was the best for this position.
- Initial approach → spin up on future capabilities that will be used by WFOs
- Completed VIST, COMET, and CI product training modules.
- Read journal articles
- Communicated with product developers via email/telecon.
- 2-week Satellite “Boot Camp” at CIMSS in July 2013. Good review for graduate level radiative transfer class.
- Warning Decision Training Branch - Distance Learning Operations Course



## Best Practices – How NWS Users Have Been Trained?

- All (almost) forecaster training is remote (e.g., live teletraining).
- 1. Develop a relationship with the WFO Focal Point (i.e., SOO or satellite focal point).
- 2. Offer live teletraining to the WFO(s) given by Satellite Liaison or the product developer.
- 3. Provide a recorded version of the live teletraining or prerecorded Articulate/VISIT version to the WFO(s).
- 4. Provide any supplemental resources (e.g., quick guide or blog) to the WFO.
- 5. Remind WFO Focal Point I am their resource, SME, and connection to the algorithm developers.

# Best Practices – How Should NWS Users Be Trained?

- WFOs need an in-residence Satellite SME (e.g., SOO or Satellite FP).
- Resources the in-residence Satellite SME needs...
  - Articulate Presentations
  - Quick Guides
  - 4-6 Minute Video Blog Posts – Near Real Time Events (Just-In-Time Training)
  - Regional SME Resource (i.e., current Satellite Liaison position)
- Training resources need to include...
  - Product Background Information
  - Relevant (i.e., regional) Product Examples
  - Relevant (i.e., regional) Product Verification
  - Product Fusion
  - Decision Support Service Examples
- Why?



## Best Practices – How Should NWS Users Be Trained?

- NWS Meteorologists are not all cut from the same mold...cue Myers-Briggs. Training that works for one person does not always work for another.
- The in-residence Satellite SME needs ALL the aforementioned resources to train meteorologists in the WFO...
- Meteorology/Content
- One-On-One Training...SME/forecaster interactions.
- Inter-Office Mentoring...forecasters teach each other. Situational Training.
- “Practice Like You Play”
- Roundtable Scenarios...how do GOES-R/JPSS products fit into WFO Operations?



# Best Practices – Closing the R2O-O2R Loop

- To close and circle the R2O-O2R loop the following are needed...
  1. Relationships with both O and R
  2. Constant Communication with both O and R (this can be challenging)
- Some Examples...
- Products Change/Update
  - Fog and Low Stratus MVFR Probabilities
  - Product Suddenly Removed from LDM Feed
  - Feedback from AR
- Products Not Flowing to WFOs
  - Convective Initiation
  - Product Suddenly Stopped Flowing in LDM Feed
  - Due to lost connection between NASA/SPoRT and NESDIS servers



# Best Practices – Biggest Success/Accomplishment to Date

- Assisting with the transition of the GOES-R Fog and Low Stratus products to NESDIS Operations.
- WFOs Using FLS Products: 31 (that we know of)
  - Eastern Region: 9 (AKQ, BOX, BTV, CHS, CTP, GSP, OKX, PBZ, PHI)
  - Central Region: 10 (DMX, EAX, IND, JKL, LMK, LSX, MKX, MQT, OAX, RIW)
  - Southern Region: 3 (JAX, MOB, TBW)
  - Western Region: 6 (EKA, HNX, LOX, MTR, PIH, SEW)
  - Alaska Region: 3 (AFC, AFG, AJK)
- Area Forecast Discussion References since March 2012: 111





## Best Practices – Biggest Challenge to Date

- NWS OPSNet
- Convincing WFOs to use this precious bandwidth to evaluate GOES-R demonstration products isn't as easy as one would think.
- *"I wish we could participate, but again our bandwidth problems would prevent us from taking an active roll. It's a real shame too, because I can't help but to feel we are missing out on some great opportunities here." – Distraught NWS SOO*
- In Central Region at least, this has improved over the last 6 months.
- Some would argue this is an excuse, but this is reality.



## Vision of the Satellite Liaison Position – Transition to SMEs?

- **liaison. n. 1.** An independent person who helps organizations or groups to work together and provide information to each other.
- **Currently,** the focus of the Satellite Liaison position is on making the R2O-O2R loop go around and around.
- **Transitioning** from a Satellite Liaison to a SME as the launch of GOES-R approaches is expected because responsibilities change...
- **Current Focus:**
  - NWS Forecasters Evaluating and Providing Feedback on GOES-R/JPSS Demonstration Products
- **Closer to Launch and Post Launch Focus:**
  - Being Satellite SMEs for WFO Satellite SMEs
  - Providing Evolving Training Resources
  - Integrating GOES-R/JPSS Products into Forecast Process



## Vision of the Satellite Liaison Position – Maintain and Retain

- The problem of retaining positions is inevitable.
- Federal position at each NWS Region and NCEP Center that is designed to focus on satellite-related activities.
- But there are questions that arise from this such as...
  - Is there enough work to repurpose a position?
  - Will responsibilities be front loaded and ease once GOES-R/S is launched?
- Federal positions would allow for...
  - Opportunities for advancement
  - Progressive increases in salary



**Questions and/or Comments?**