

Clarus Program & Initiative Requirements

Breakout 10:15 – 11:15

Thursday, November 17

Topics

- Initiative Issues
- Proof-of-Concept (POC) Demonstration
- Regional Multi-state Demonstration
- Weather Service Providers
- Next Steps

Three Terms to Remember...

- ***Clarus System***

- Tools for sharing surface weather observations and relevant surface transportation conditions

- ***Clarus Program***

- Operations and maintenance functions and personnel needed to sustain the *Clarus System*

- ***Clarus Initiative***

- Development of tools, models, decision support that leverage the *Clarus System*
- End-to-End processes spanning data gathering to road weather information products & services
- Research activities that support creation of road weather information products & services

Initiative Issues

- Continued stakeholder involvement
 - Gaining more Gulf State participation
- Understanding the “end-to-end” desires and needs
 - More perspective of private/enterprise interests from *Clarus* Initiative
- Impact of VII
- Definition of an operational entity beyond the regional demonstration

Initiative Issues

- Guiding Principles
 - Enabling public sector and weather enterprise to agree on applied use of *Clarus* System
 - Clarifying what demands would be imposed on sustaining a *Clarus* Program
 - Establishing realistic expectations of what the *Clarus* Initiative could provide to all

Proof-of-Concept Demonstration

- Currently scheduled for March through September 2006
- Exercise system components of *Clarus* System Design
- Need to work with state or states
 - MADIS participant
 - Ability to invest some time
 - Ability to grant access to data
 - Data rich with potential quality checking data

Regional Multi-state Demonstration

- RFP or RFA to be released in late Spring/early Summer
 - At least 6 month procurement lag
- Objective: Demonstration of the *Clarus* System design to determine how forecast tools are supported to serve the needs of the *Clarus* stakeholders.

Regional Multi-state Demonstration

- Evaluation
 - Consider the outputs of the *Clarus* demonstration
 - The forecasting tools *Clarus* Initiative enables
 - Outcomes of the *Clarus* System & Program demonstration
 - What are the systems impact on mobility, safety, and productivity?
- Current activity
 - Developing potential hypotheses for evaluation
 - Incorporate into RFP or RFA

Weather Enterprise

- Engage their participation in Regional Multi-state Demonstration
- Validate anticipated value to the Weather Enterprise
 - Potential dialog sessions with individual weather enterprise providers

Value to the Weather Enterprise

- Steady, reliable access to quality assessed data
- Improved market entry for value added services
 - Tailored, niche, and personalized dissemination
- Improved quality data stream for new forecast development
 - New models are sensitive to quality of data
 - Broader geographic and temporal range of data
- *Clarus* System will likely be the portal to access VII-related weather data

Next Steps

- Response from Weather Enterprise for interests in one-on-one dialogues
- Guiding Principles development
- Potential RFI on the Regional Multi-state Demonstration RFA or RFP