



Highlights
TECHWG Teleconference
August 14, 2012, 2:00 p.m. EDT

Participants

Amparo Atencio, ORISE
Lani Fellows, NSTec
David Germain, NSTec
Justin Harty, ANL
Paul Hicks, B&W Y-12
Jack Huckabee, ORO
Tony Hupp, ORISE

Joseph Kirts, LLNL
Jeff Leifel, ORISE
Stephen Lockett, DOE, NA-41
Stephen Mills
Henry Pazos, NSTec
Paul Tibbs
Alan Woodward, LANL

Welcome

Tony Hupp took roll call and provided the agenda overview. He will be the Facilitator and will assist the TECHWG Chairperson during future TECHWG events.

Henry Pazos is taking over as the Chairperson for Jim "JD" Daniels. He is excited to have the opportunity to meet everyone and move forward with this year's TECHWG.

EMI SIG Annual Meeting

The next EMI SIG Annual Meeting will be in May 2013.

If anyone would like to present or has ideas on topics, demonstrations, displays, or presentations for the next EMI SIG TECHWG, please email your suggestions to us or post them to the TECHWG SharePoint Site at <https://vision.ornl.gov/NSEMP/EML/techwg/layouts/viewlists.aspx>

Cloud-Based Technologies and Solutions

Last year, we were unable to capture or present the Idaho cloud-based solution. It was suggested to talk to Phil Pfeiffer at Idaho to learn from this newly implemented methodology.

National Security Technologies (NSTec) is using a Virtual Server for most of its EM Technology Solutions and Products.

Participants were asked if anyone has systems that are cloud-based technologies.

Y-12 is using a "Hosted" Communicator NXT Notification System.

Open Discussion Areas

Virtualization

The Nevada Site Office NSTec has been using Thin Clients/Zero Client computers since October 2011 with great success and reliability.

The group was questioned about what they are using—laptops or physical desktops vs. thin clients.

Paul Hicks at Y12 made the decision to stay with laptops and desktops.

Henry still uses physical laptops and desktops as redundancies in case anything happened to the thin clients. He wants to get a feel for who has started using thin clients, which have much lower costs and are easier to maintain.

Has anyone experienced security roadblocks or issues using “Hosted Solutions” or cloud-based technologies?

There are two kinds of Systems being used in Nevada at NSTec for Emergency Management and Notification Solutions: “Critical” (Mission Essential) and “Moderate Impact” Systems. These systems are being tracked daily and measured in Uptime Availability (New Metric).

Housekeeping

Tony posed the question: What are the TECHWG Members’ expectations?

Paul from Y12 is interested in what everyone else is doing in security, etc. They all have unique situations. During an emergency, the classification level can change. That contributed to their decision to stay with using desktops. They do use IT to do back-ups, etc.; they just have so many unique problems.

Los Alamos is very similar to the Y12 situation. They run in a mode that can be taken off network and still run on their own.

WebEOC

Henry says they have considered tying the Emergency Communications Network (ECN) and the EOC tied together. If the EOC Network goes down, the ECN would be the backup for WebEOC. He is looking for suggestions and ideas. He will discuss with ECN Manager Bill Nickels at RSL-N.

At LLNL they have considered the ECN.

Being able to capitalize on feedback from other groups would be appreciated.

Y12 uses the ENIS (local) system, but they are interested in seeing how other sites are using wireless networks. Y12 is expanding but still has a way to go. They would appreciate feedback.



Recurrent Themes; Discussion Areas for Next Teleconference

- How do we detect or anticipate system failures?
- Barriers to using cloud-based technologies?
- Security issues using wireless devices?

Goals for the Upcoming EMISIG TECHWG

- Capitalize on lessons learned in our EOCs
- Share/demo technologies in use across the sites

Henry asked TECHWG Members to please submit topics for Presentations and Technology Displays at the next EMISIG Annual Meeting in 2013. We'll address these things in future meetings.

Wrap-Up

The next teleconference is scheduled for TBD, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m. EDT.