

## **PROJECT DELIVERY GROUP UPDATE - MARCH 2008**

### **ACCOMMODATION**

#### **Buildings**

Construction at the remaining sites is progressing well. The South East is on track for practical completion in mid May. The North West, Yorkshire & Humberside and the East of England are still due for completion later this year (2008). The London RCC is scheduled to start later in 2008.

#### **Environment Agency flood risk**

The Environment Agency has determined that the South West RCC plot is not at risk from flooding and has updated its maps accordingly.

#### **Facilities Management (FM)**

We are on track to select a preferred facilities management supplier. Seven dates through April and May have now been scheduled for the FM team to present to each of the LACCs or appropriate regional body and the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA).

### **TECHNOLOGY**

#### **General**

The latest version of the EADS integrated schedule, received on 8 February, will be used as the basis for all further detailed planning. Detailed plans for each package will go out to regions.

#### **Interim IT**

There were some significant problems deploying the early IT equipment in the North East and East Midlands. EADS is urgently working to resolve these problems and we propose to carry out a 'lessons learned' exercise to ensure similar problems do not happen in the future.

#### **Data Capture and Migration Toolkit (DCMT)**

Work is continuing on configuring and testing DCMT1. This will allow FRSs to match existing mobilizing gazetteers against the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) data and to add location-specific intelligence, while also validating the NLPG data and adding FRS locations to the core data. User Assurance Testing (UAT) is planned to start on 6 March, and subject to satisfactory testing, deployment will start during the week commencing 17 March. We are also working to arrange a lessons learnt exercise. Work is continuing on the detailed planning for DCMT2, following a workshop held with EADS on 12 February.

#### **Early station end equipment (ESEE)**

Planned user testing of the early station end type has been delayed because of lack of information. A new testing and release plan for the ESEE is being provided by EADS

#### **Risk Management Toolkit (RMT) and Optimal Resource Location**

A range of RMT workshops were held in February. Feedback from the workshops has been mainly positive. A note outlining key points and actions from the FRS workshops will be produced by early March.

#### **Main system build**

Work is continuing on the design of the main system with the focus on design workshops. In the last month, workshops have been held covering mobilisation, the operational system and the ICCS graphical user interface (the screen).

Further workshops are planned for the next period including PDA solution establishment, Resource Proposal Usability and Resource Management Workshop.

## **MDTs**

MDT1 was delivered by EADS in November 2007 – this version of the product will not be deployed. CLG and EADS have discussed MDT requirements in detail to provide a robust impact analysis for the delivery of the next release. EADS plans to deliver this impact analysis and delivery plan in early March. MDT hardware The letter from Richard How and Ashley Truluck of 25 January 2008 sets out the position on the fitting of MDTs. The two project teams have started work putting in place a robust MDT delivery strategy and plan that is expected to go before Firelink's Principal User Group (PUG) and FiReControl's Senior Operations Group (SOG) in March.

## **Officer Mobilising**

With FiReControl, the use of mobile data to support mobilisation and management of incidents will become much more widespread. On fire appliances, the solution will be based on a mobile data terminal (MDT). The MDT will be equipped with a GPS receiver and the ability to access a commercial data network. CLG decided a similar solution for FRS officers, based on an MDT with a smaller screen, was deemed to be unsuitable because:

- the installation problems are insurmountable, given the wide range of vehicles (including private and leased cars) used by officers
- FRS officers spend much of their time away from their vehicles.

So CLG has been looking at other options for a portable (handheld) mobile data device, primarily to be used for mobilisation. Work is progressing well and a summary was presented to SOG on 14 February. SOG endorsed the recommendations and the options to be developed in more detail. A meeting with EADS has been planned for 28 February to discuss preferred option(s) and for them to undertake an assessment of the effort and cost to support its delivery.

## **Early adopter DCMT1 workshop**

A workshop for early adopter DCMT1 FRSs was held on 28/29 January to review training materials. A further one-day review session is planned for early March.

## **PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONAL DESIGN (POD)**

### **Recruitment**

Regional Control Centre Directors (RCCDs) The closing date for applications for RCCD posts in the North West and Yorkshire & Humberside is 29 February.

Senior Operations Managers (SOMs) - A SOM has been recruited in the South West.

### **Assumptions review**

A review of the HR assumptions on which the business case is based was carried out at the HR Working Group (HRWG) meeting on 21 February 2008.

### **Staffing model**

Visits to provide detailed information on the staffing model to those supporting the RCC Company decisions on staff numbers have been arranged for all regions except the North West, who have said they are happy for Fiona Hodson to provide the necessary input.

Visits have already taken place with the North East, West Midlands, London and South West.

## **TESTING**

### **Testing workshops**

The Test Team (TST) has completed a series of two-day regional workshops. The key points presented at the workshops were as follows:

- The overarching objective of the testing on the FiReControl solution is to ensure that the business needs of the RCCs and FRSs are met before the solution is deployed into live use. The more specific goals are to verify that all requirements have been met, exercise all business processes and address all identified risks
- The solution will be thoroughly tested at all stages by EADS and by TST working with the regions and the FRSs. TST will continually exercise its right to monitor EADS' adherence to the contracted arrangements for testing by reviewing test documentation and witnessing test events. FRSs will be encouraged to participate in these activities
- TST will prepare and script a comprehensive User Assurance Test (UAT) and a series of Operational Assurance Tests (OATs) to assure RCCs and FRSs the solution meets business needs and is ready for live use. It is hoped that FRSs will review the test scenarios, contribute to their development and execute the test scripts
- In addition to thoroughly testing the functional aspects of the solution, significant emphasis will be placed on the non-functional aspects such as performance, stress, failover, resilience and usability. A key reason for holding the workshops is to encourage FRSs to start thinking about product risks (for example, concerns that the solution will not meet their business needs, or that something may have been overlooked). The approach to capturing and mitigating product risks was outlined as follows:
  - a. The aim is to identify and mitigate product risks as early as possible.
  - b. A facility to submit product risks has been created on Unicorn, through which TST will provide feedback.
  - c. FRSs are encouraged to actively engage in this process – and not to delay raising concerns, since to do so could result in significant additional costs and delays, particularly if requirements are found to have been overlooked.

### **Test development**

#### **Functional tests**

Scenarios (mini storylines) have been developed to exercise each business process path and a significant number of the product risks have already been identified. TST is currently developing scenario frameworks to capture all the test conditions and test cases. From these tests will be scripted for the UAT and OATs.

#### **Non-functional tests**

Work has started on creating scenario frameworks for testing the non-functional aspects of the solution. To date, outline frameworks have been produced covering backup and restore, synchronisation, disaster recovery, installation, volume and load, performance and stress, resilience, support and maintenance and endurance tests. By early June, TST is planning to circulate draft scenarios through RPMs, for review and comment

## **Early deliverables**

The Test Team has been monitoring the EADS testing on the early deliverables (MDT1, ESEE and DCMT1) to ensure compliance with the contracted testing arrangements. This has included analysis of the test evidence provided by EADS' sub-contractors.

### ESEE

The UAT scheduled to run from 25 to 28 February has been postponed because further testing is required. While this may be seen as a disappointment or failure, TST's role is to ensure that deliverables are fully tested before being deployed into live use. The ESEE UAT will be rescheduled once the required evidence has been provided. In the meantime, the draft ESEE UAT scripts has been circulated to RPMs for distribution and comment by 29 February.

### DCMT1

EADS is currently testing this deliverable. TST is preparing draft scripts for the UAT, scheduled to take place in Newport between 6 and 13 March. Draft scripts will be circulated to RPMs for distribution and comment on 1 March. Twelve FRS representatives have expressed an interest in attending the UAT, but some regions have yet to respond. Main System Build  
The factory test of build 2a is scheduled to take place in Newport between 1 and 8 July. TST would greatly welcome regional and FRS representation at this event.

## **GENERAL**

### **The catalogue service**

Consultation with key FRS stakeholders on the development and release of the full catalogue service (which will provide access to goods, commodities and services for FiReControl) will take place during the year, with release expected by the end of 2008. An interim catalogue list is planned to be circulated at the end of March via Unicorn to support the delivery of ESEE and DCMT milestones. Full guidance on the processes for placing orders and invoicing will be provided.