Year-End Roll-Over (YERO)

MCC New Year's Eve Test

SR3674



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Introduction

- 11/2/06 PRCB discussion
 - Action assigned to develop plan/cost/schedule to provide YERO capability that would address concerns raised during 116 discussions
 - » Originally due 12/14/06, deferred to 1/25/07
 - » Expectation of SSP is clear YERO capability is a requirement
- The team first focused on preparing for possible STS-116 YERO
 - Addressed concerns raised by at the 11/2 PRCB
 - Multiple integrated discussions were held
 - Made significant headway on all YERO technical issues
- The team is also working plans for future YERO
 - Potential to reduce on-board YERO impacts with Flight Software changes
 - Potential to reduce ground YERO recycle impacts with additional testing
 - YERO testing, simulations and training to increase awareness and confidence across the community

STS-116 YERO Procedures

- Part 1: On-board Setup
 - Completed by crew prior to crew sleep on 12/31
- Part 1a: Ground Recycle at GMT midnight
 - Recycle MCC platform to reset time-based dependencies
 - Occurs while crew is asleep
 - 1.5 hour procedure
- Part 1b: Ground Recycle at Local midnight
 - Recycle MCC platform to reset time-based dependencies
 - Occurs while crew is asleep
 - 1.5 hour procedure
- Part 2: On-board PASS
 - Performed after crew awake on 1/1
 - IPL the PASS set to wipe out references to "old" time
 - Uplink reference data to restore GPC's
 - 1.5 hour procedure
- Part 3: Onboard BFS
 - Bring up the BFS to establish updated time from MTU
 - Uplink reference data
 - 0.5 hour procedure

YERO Ground Procedures

- Existing STS-116 YERO ground procedure is a complete MCC recycle
 - Covers unknowns by recycling all hardware and software after the time changes
- Procedure is run twice: at GMT midnight and again at Local midnight
 - Log-off workstations
 - De-allocate servers and activities
 - Recycle/reboot servers
 - Re-allocate servers and mission activity
 - Log-in and configure workstations
 - Total time: 1.5 hours (approximately 30 min with users logged out)
- Procedures have been tested in previous SAIL and SMS tests and have resulted in no issues
- Community was briefed on specific impacts of the ground recycle in preparation for STS-116
 - No issues identified

Ground Test Rationale

- Current ground procedures are acceptable for YERO as-is. However...
- Further testing and analysis can reduce the procedure footprint
 - Current procedure is brute-force recycle of everything
 - Likely NOT required for:
 - » Workstations, FEP, and most user software
 - Required for:
 - » Command and Trajectory servers, MET-based logging & plotting tools
 - Length of procedure not likely to change significantly (driver is TRAJ server)
- Further testing can reveal unknowns

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- SAIL and SMS testing that has been performed to date has only changed Orbiter-based time, not local MCC time (SGMT is used in sims)
- Multiple ways to tell time can make it difficult to clearly identify YERO vulnerabilities
 - » On-board: MTU GMT, MTU MET, GPC GMT, GPC MET, etc
 - » MCC: FEP GMT, NTP server time, GPS time, etc
- Based on this, MOD is planning to perform additional YERO testing and simulations to support YERO readiness efforts

Test Plan

- The goal of the test is to evaluate MCC hardware and software during time rollover at GMT and Local midnight
- Focus is on MCC response to YERO, so on-board procedures will not need to be executed during the test
 - Requires SAIL or SMS to provide a source of on-board time and telemetry
- Test concept is to have 2 simultaneous activities for comparison
 - Control: everything recycled per existing YERO procedures
 - Test: only Command and Trajectory servers will be recycled
- This does not need to be an integrated test and support from outside of MOD would not be required

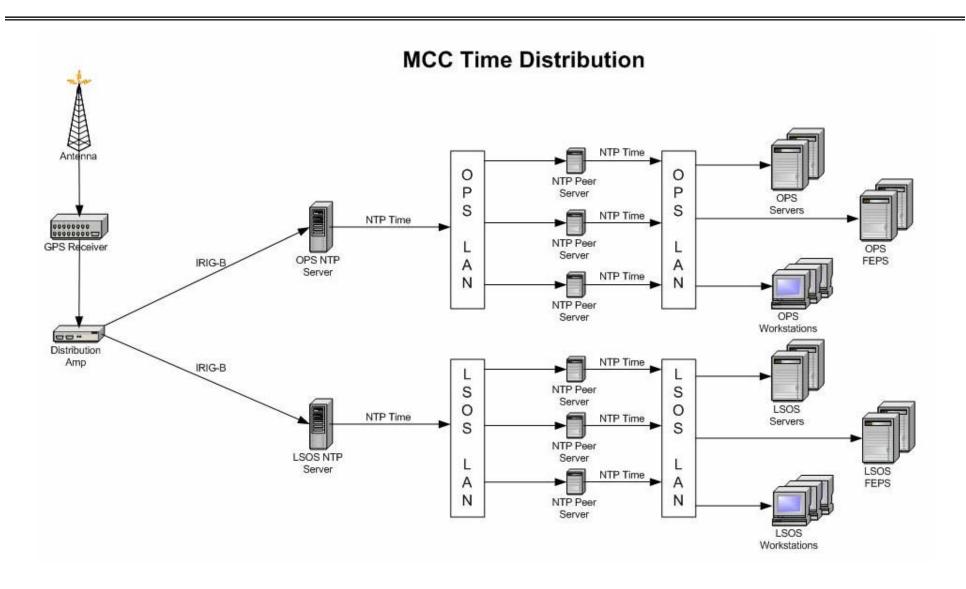
How to Test

- Test can be conducted during the actual New Year's Eve rollover event
 - This is the least impact to MCC operations
- YERO can also be simulated if steps are taken to isolate ISS operations from the time change
 - Utilizes LSOS (Limited Station Operations Support) mode of operations
 - » Places ISS operations on separate MCC platform that is isolated from the OPS environment
 - » This mode is used to perform MCC facility work, upgrades and testing during continual ISS operations
 - Typically occurs several times per year, with each LSOS period lasting 2-3 days (typically scheduled on weekends)
 - » There is no functional impact to the ISS flight control team
 - » LSOS equipment is single-string
 - For a YERO test, ISS would be swung to LSOS for 3 to 4 days during a non-impacting timeframe (per existing LSOS scheduling guidelines)
 - » GPS time source would be disconnected from OPS and remain connected to LSOS
 - » OPS NTP server (source of MCC time) would then be set ahead to 12/31 for the test

How to Test (cont.)

- LSOS YERO Test (cont.)
 - This will be a fully functional test of YERO
 - » The source of time in the MCC is the NTP Server
 - » Everything in the MCC OPS environment will believe that it is 12/31
 - » Equivalent to the Y2K test configuration
 - Recovery from this test involves restoring the OPS environment from backups and checkpoints and then regression testing to ensure all traces of future time have been erased
- Based on this, either a New Year's Eve or a LSOS test would be adequate to evaluate Ground YERO procedures

MCC Time Distribution



Other Factors

- There will continue to be MCC hardware and software changes between now and the time that YERO is needed
 - Most significant is MWSOR (MCC Workstation/Server/Ops Replacement), replacing workstations and servers along with re-hosting software from UNIX to Linux
 - » Currently underway user software will be ready for testing in Spring of 2007
 - » Replacements will continue through 2009
 - These changes may require additional testing or invalidate the results of previous testing
- Potential changes to how YERO is managed on-board may modify ground procedures
 - It may be desired to watch on-board YERO occur before performing MCC recycle
- Additional testing, simulations and training will very likely be needed to increase community confidence in YERO
- This makes it highly desired to be able to simulate MCC YERO response without being constrained to a single opportunity on New Year's Eve

Decision

- Based on these factors, MOD has decided to not proceed with a 12/31/06 YERO test and to instead pursue YERO testing in LSOS mode later in 2007
 - Allows test to cover more issues/concerns (MWSOR)
- Deferring this test from New Year's Eve does not impact any organization outside of MOD
 - Was not planned to be an integrated test
 - Orbiter response can be adequately simulated (does not require a New Year's Eve test)
- Additional YERO tests and simulations will be scheduled as required to achieve program requirement of having YERO capability through the end of Shuttle

Future Work

- MCC software audits are under consideration to supplement YERO testing
- Integrated YERO simulations are under consideration to build SSP-wide confidence and comfort
- Reviews are underway with the Flight Software community to evaluate alternatives to the current YERO procedure
- KSC YERO supportability will continue to be assessed
- This plan is currently scheduled to come to PRCB on 1/25/07

- Expectation of SSP is clear YERO capability is a requirement
 - Integration is occurring at Orbit Flight Techniques as well as SICB, FOICB and OCCB
 - Ground-rule: no YERO during critical dynamic phase (ascent, entry, dock/undock)