

ANSS Network Operations (NetOps) Technical Workshop II

Attendees of the NetOps I workshop enthusiastically endorsed similar future workshops. They also recommended that future workshops be smaller and more topically focused. The NetOps II planning committee endorses that recommendation and proposes that NetOps II be focused principally on technical hardware and equipment issues. Thus we envision that the target audience would be network technicians, engineers, and computer and networking specialists – those responsible for development, operation, and maintenance of the hardware side of our networks. Management and network PIs (“muckety-mucks”) should be invited (another recommendation from NetOps I), but with the intention that they primarily listen for actions at the their levels that would improve efficiency and progress at the technical level.

Purpose of NetOps II

1. Foster and promote a professionally operated ANSS
2. Facilitate improved communications and “networking” among technical staff
3. Communicate ANSS goals and performance standards, and how technical elements contribute to them.

Themes

Discussion among the planning committee developed four general topics around which a technical program could be developed. This list is open to advice and input from network operators and ANSS stakeholders.

1. Continuity of Operations. Inventory methods, assessments, case histories, and remediation of network elements susceptible to single points of failure.
2. Technical and networking contributions to achieving ANSS Performance Standards and the use of ANSS products and tools in support of this effort.
3. Communications as a topic to itself – long-haul, network radio and last-mile solutions.
4. Instrumentation, repair, maintenance, and depot support.

Other topics to consider:

- Briefings and case histories from major events (Utah, Hawaii, Nevada)
- Strong motion (NSMP) station transition to regional networks.
- INV and SeisNetWatch
- Status of ASL Equipment Depot

Ideas to preserve:

- Based on feedback from several sources, we do not recommend lengthy plenary

sessions or a round-robin overview of all networks.

- A poster/photo and drawings display space is recommended, with the focus on what the technical staff consider important – wiring diagrams, radio and hardware solutions, station installation details, etc. - a place to show off solutions and exchange ideas.

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Organization

Like NetOps I we propose that the technical staff be recruited to flesh out the specifics of the themes above. This worked fairly well in NetOps I.

Proposed Timeframe: 1.5 to 2 days in late January or sometime in February. The week of February 4 would work if facilities and other obligations permit.

Venue

The planning committee saw value in a venue that could share expertise, show real hardware and solutions, etc. Such a site was considered a better “return on investment” for the time spent in travel and attendance. Field trips to technical installations would be considered a plus. There is interest in seeing the technical side of a major California network.

Other Considerations

Funding for travel and participant support.