

# Why can't we all get along? A New Template for Public- Private Cooperation.

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# Today's Agenda

- We all have resources, how do we maximize their use?
- We all have needs, how do we meet them with almost no budget?
- We all have bosses, how do we keep them happy?
- We all would like to get along, how do we do it politically?

# KCCI has resources

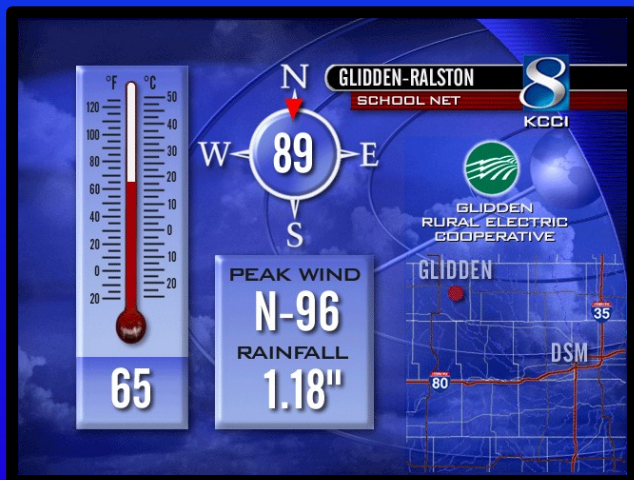


(WNW) Jefferson Fri Jul 30 20:28:02 CDT 2004

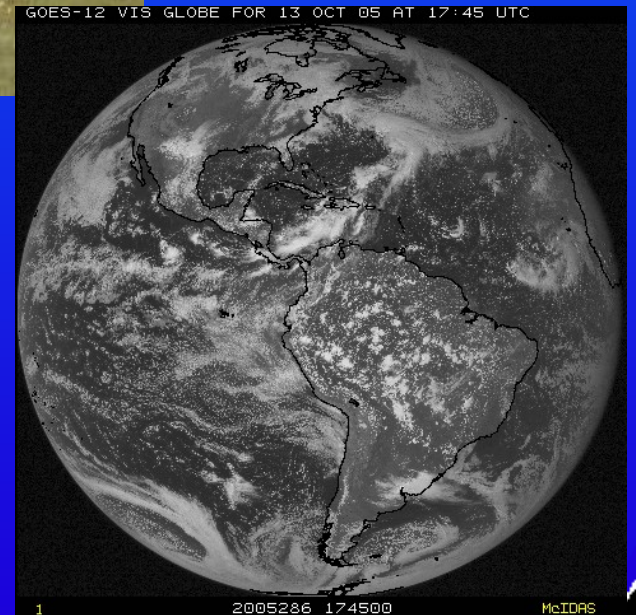
LIVE SUPER DOPPLER  
**SCHOOL NET 8**



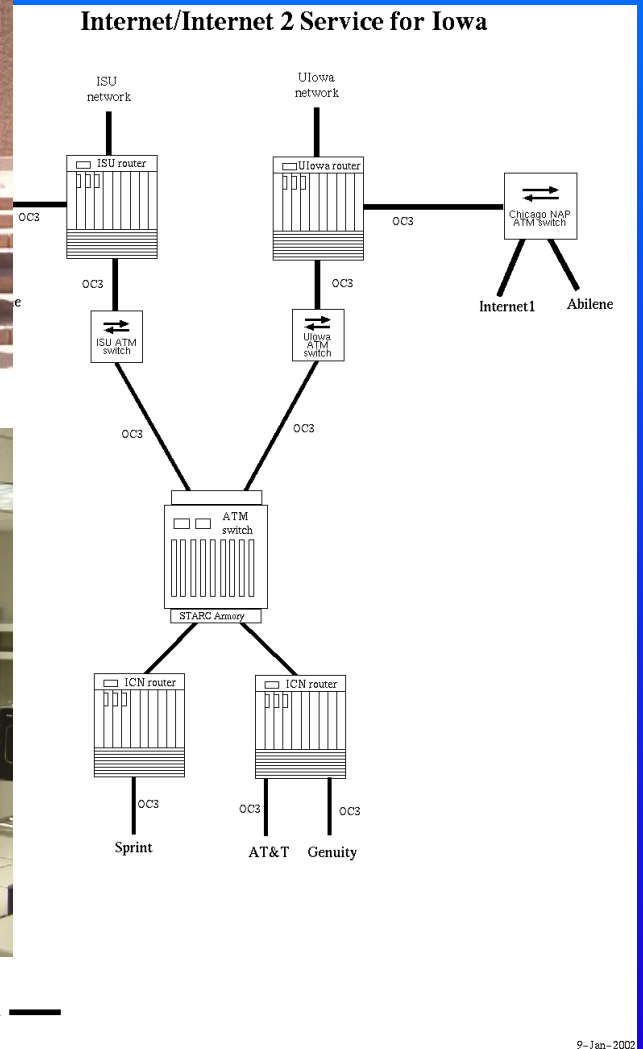
**LIVE SUPER DOPPLER 8**



# The NWS has resources



# Iowa State has resources



# What do we need?

- KCCI-TV
  - Methods/software to utilize tools, operations support, timely and accurate products
- NWS
  - Data, data, more data, public reports, science tools, communications help
- Iowa State / Iowa Mesonet
  - Data, support, collaborators, a hug

# How do we get along?

- We all have a common goal, produce products to better serve the public.
  - KCCI – ratings, NWS – Mission, IEM - Outreach
- Enter the Iowa Environmental Mesonet collaboration
  - Venue to make our formal cooperation politically doable
  - The mesonet is built on the partnerships
  - Placing the university in the middle of the data flows prevents many issues.

# Example Collaboration

- KCCI provides the IEM with a live feed of school based weather sensors.
- The IEM processes this feed and provides custom products including wind alerts to the NWS.
- The NWS uses this information to enhance the accuracy and timeliness of their products.
- KCCI benefits from improved NWS products
- The IEM benefits from having another dataset to process.
- The NWS benefits from having a high resolution network to supplement ASOS/AWOS and NEXRAD.



# Benefiting KCCI's competition?

- The honest answer is 'YES', but....
  - outside of voice, they lack the ability to get the products on-air visually.
  - the key is situational awareness. If you are nowcasting off these tools, you are doing a disservice to the public.
- Benefiting the entire public and saving lives should be the bottom line. Keeping these tools proprietary is not a sustainable system. Need to build up large and diverse user bases -> ratings.

# Switching Gears



# Instant messaging background

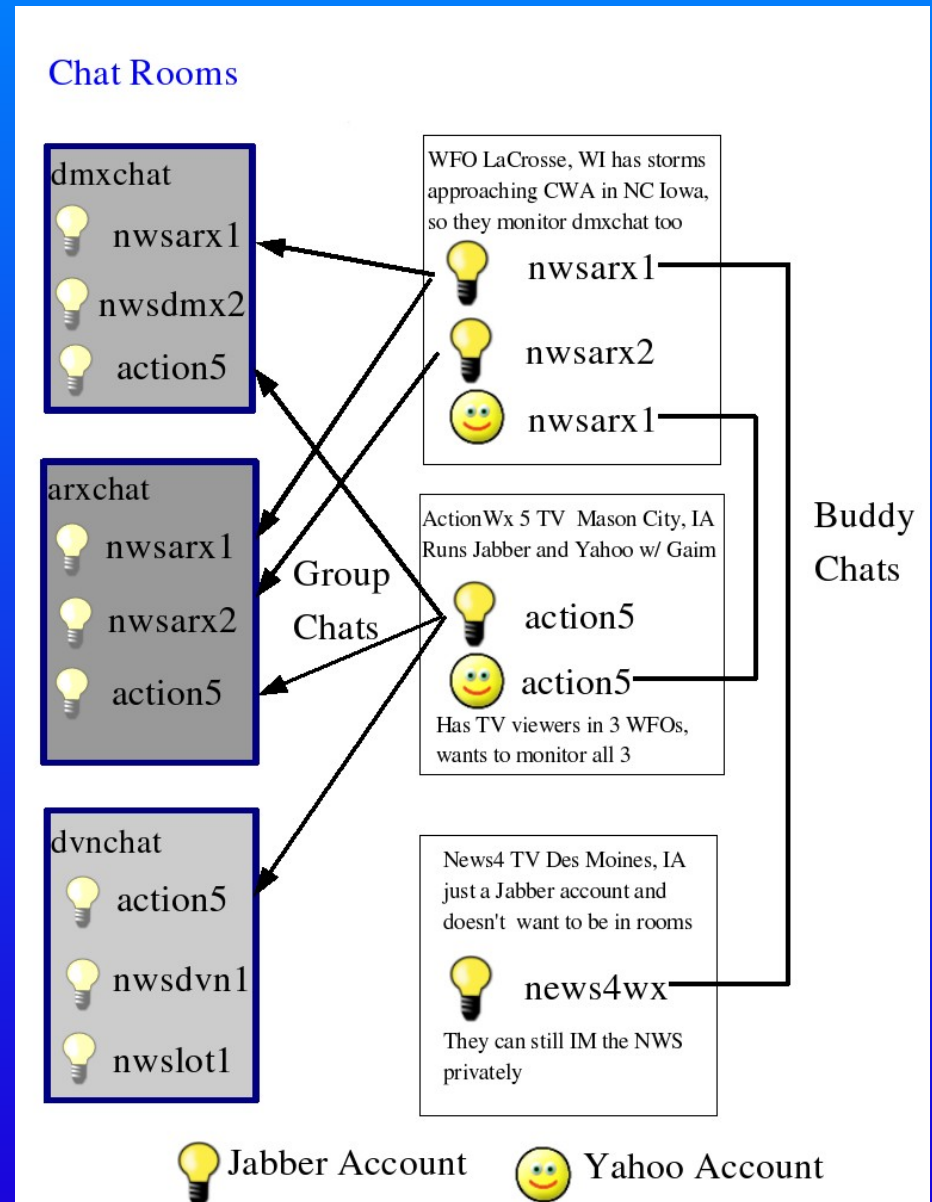
- Lots of NWS WFOs and their partners are instant messaging in one form or another.
- In Iowa, we began using Yahoo! IM in spring 2004 with good success.
- Winter 2005, we began to look for alternatives to Yahoo. Why you ask?

# Problems with Yahoo!

- The Yahoo! provided client is adware.
- Chat rooms are limited to 50 users (?)
- Yahoo! Protocol only supports participation in 1 chat room at once.
- Yahoo! Chat not allowed on some WANs
- Securing chat rooms from unauthorized access. How? Dealing with chat rooms in general....
- Nobody likes getting Yahoooooo'd!!!
- And now Yahoo + MSN have joined. This smells of a more efficient method to spread windows viruses.

# New Chatting System

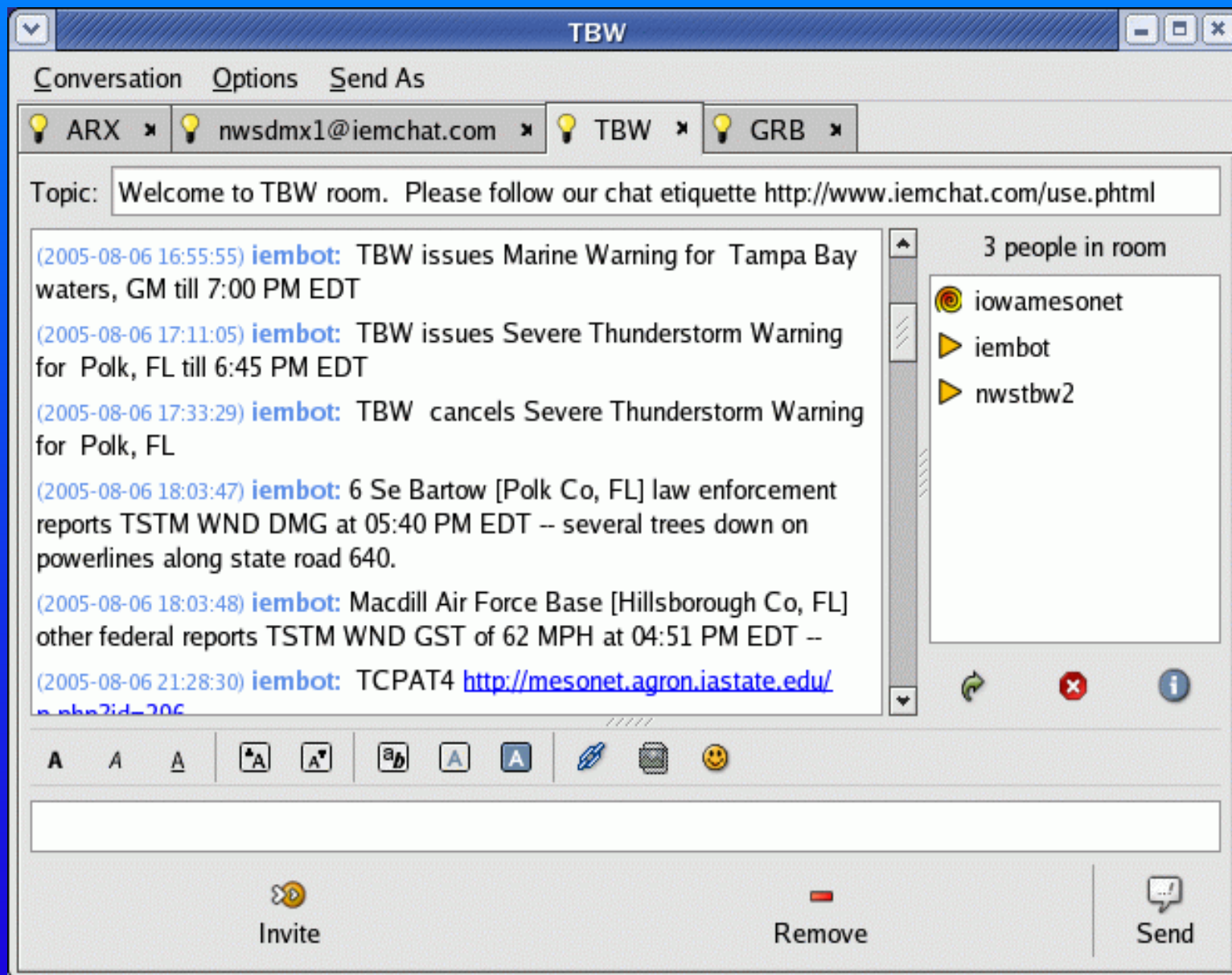
- Secure
- Simple
- Scalable
- Sustainable
- Sexy (why migrate?)
- Support legacy Yahoo! clients



# IEMChat Project Features

- End to end encryption (logins, chats)
- ∞ users in a chat room
- Users can join multiple rooms (multiple WFOs)
- Rooms have recent history when you join them. Can get caught up quickly.
- Standards based XML protocol (Jabber). Open Source client (Gaim).
- Same technology has Google Talk.

# Screen shot



# Hello, lembot!

- lembot is the code name for a chat “bot”
- A bot is a program that participates in chats and acts like another user
- lembot is a good bot!

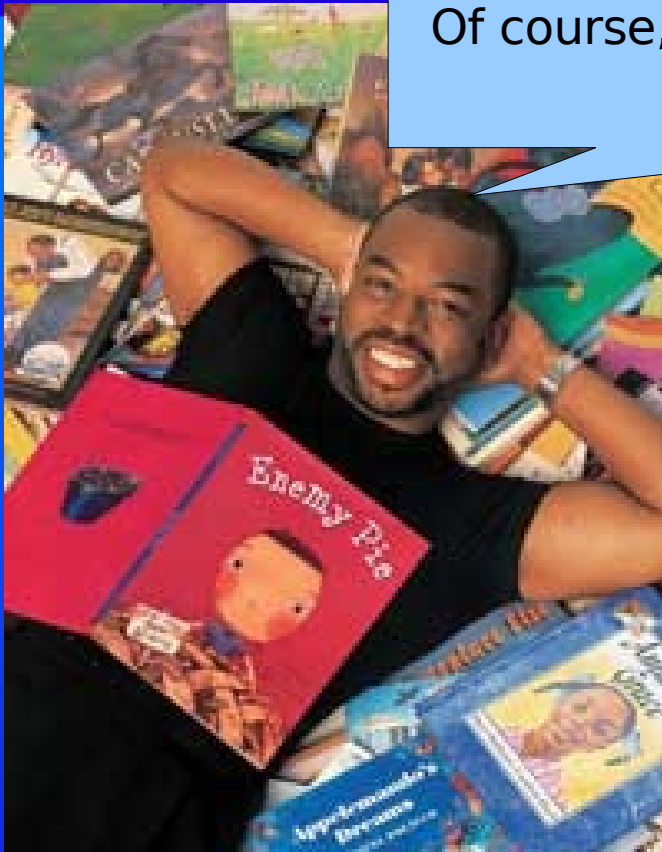




# iembot is smart and fast.

- TBW issues Marine Warning for Tampa Bay waters, GM till 8:45 PM EDT
- MHX issues Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Onslow, NC till 11:15 AM EDT
- GGW cancels Lake Wind Advisory for Central and Southern Valley, MT and Garfield, MT and McCone, MT
- TULSA,OK (KTUL) ASOS reports gust of 41 knots from NNW @ 0919Z
- MCD! <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/md/md2046.html>
- 2 W Harrison [Douglas Co, SD] public reports HAIL of 1.75 INCH at 06:58 PM CDT --
- TCPAT1 <http://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/p.php?id=505>
- SPC issues TORNADO watch till 06:00Z  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/watch/ww0821.html>, new watch replaces WW 819, WW 820

Of course, you don't have to take my word for it.



SchoolNet8 Website  
<http://www.schoolnet8.com>

KCCI-TV Website  
<http://www.kcci.com>

IEM Chat Project Website  
<http://www.iemchat.com>

Iowa Mesonet Website  
<http://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu>

NWS Des Moines  
<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/>