

V.2 FORECAST COMPONENT TIME SERIES DEFINITION

This Chapter describes how time series needed by the Forecast Component are defined.

Time series are used by the Operational Forecast System to store time varying data values on a fixed time interval basis and are used to:

- o store data output by the Preprocessor Component that is used by the Forecast Component
- o pass data values from one Operation to another
- o store data output by the Forecast Component

Section V.2.1 describes the system for internal identification of time series. All of the time series to be used by the Operations in a Segment must be specified by the user. This allows the Forecast Component to allocate space for each time series. Each of the time series to be used in a Segment is uniquely identified so that the user can specify which time series are used to provide input or output to each Operation. The system for identifying time series for use within a Segment is internal to the Forecast Component (i.e., it is not used to identify time series in other components or time series stored on files).

Section V.2.2 contains information about the allowable time series data types for the Forecast Component.

Section V.2.3 contains the input summary for defining time series to be used by a Segment. The input requires that the user specify internal identification information for all time series to be used and external location information for the time series that need to be read from or written to a file.

Section V.2.4 describes the external location information needed by the different files that can be read from or written to by the Forecast Component. Some of the time series needed by a Segment must be read from files such as the Operational Forecast System Processed Data Base or the Calibration System data files. Also, some of the results produced by a Segment are in time series form and need to be written to a set of files for later use. In order to read or write time series to external files, some specific information is needed to locate the time series on the file. This external location information varies from one file type to another. For example, the external location information needed to read a time series from Calibration System data files is different than that for the Operational Forecast System Processed Data Base.