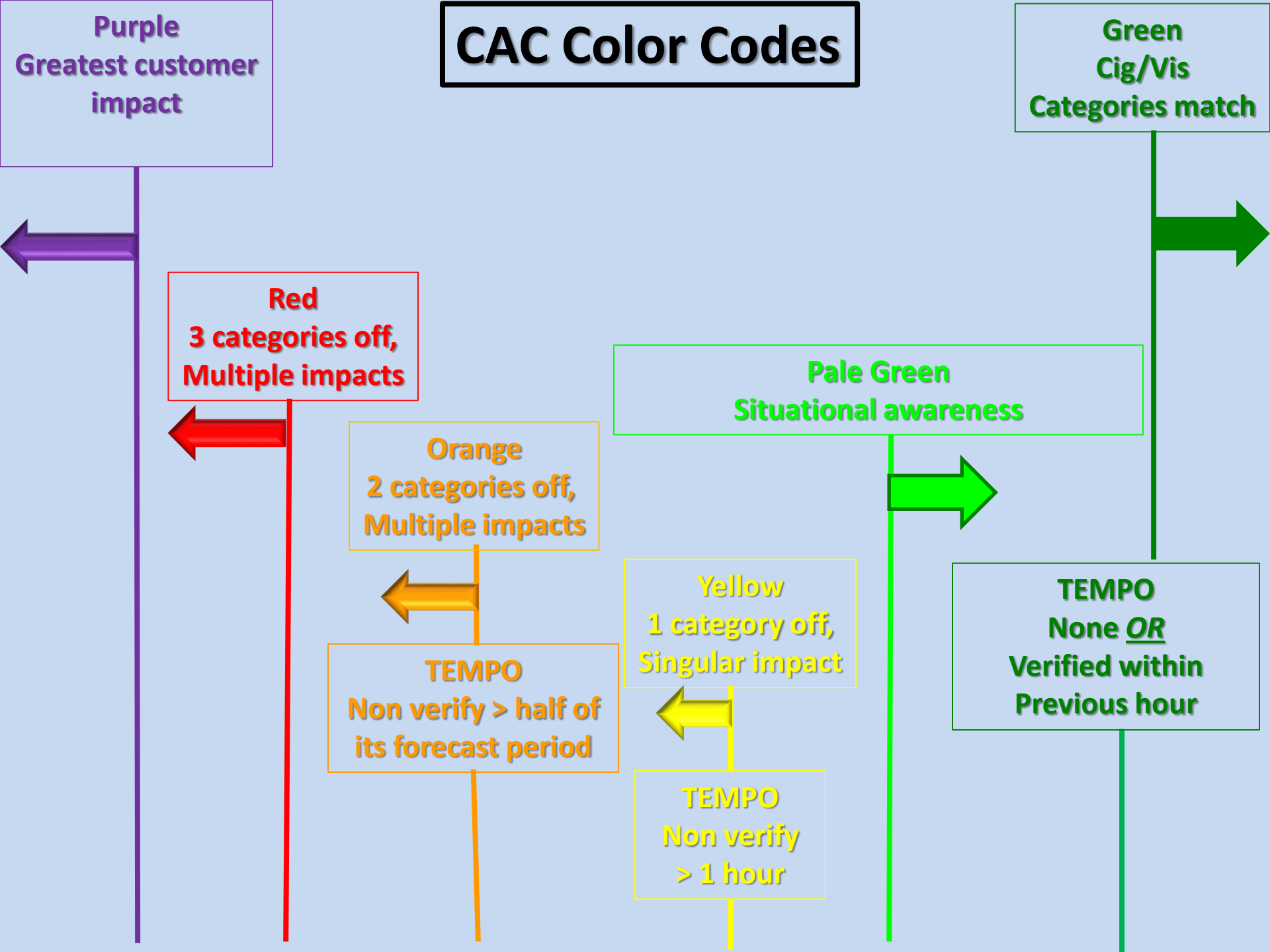


CAC Color Codes



CAT Color Code

PURPLE

Customer Impacts

Forecast or observed conditions can preclude dispatch/release

Ripple affect can create flight delays at multiple destinations

Forecast of observed conditions improving above minimums critical to air traffic managers and dispatchers

Timing of forecast for conditions to go below minimums used in planning delays or changing routes

TEMPO forecasts at destination may or may not impact airline dispatching. Check with your customers for specifics

Forecaster Challenges

Requires **IMMEDIATE** attention

Very narrow thresholds to forecast and remain in category

Variable conditions above/below minimums create notification in AvnFPS that can be distracting

Challenge to decision making when to amend to add or remove forecast

CAT Color Code

RED

Customer Impacts

Three categories off creating multiple impacts

Regulatory impacts could include:

1. Airfield not being available as an alternate
2. Required alternate airport and additional fuel
3. VFR flights not possible
4. Possible flight delays

Non-regulatory impact could include:

1. Invalid indication to pilots of IFR or MVFR conditions

Potential for loss of confidence in the forecast based on how far off it is from the observation

Forecaster Challenges

Requires **CRITICAL** attention

Determining the reason for such a large discrepancy between the forecast and observation:

1. Forecast timing of event off?
2. Observation questionable?
3. Missed forecast?
4. Rapidly changing weather?
5. Highly variable weather?

Decision to amend takes time to analyze

Decision on when/how to amend:

1. Change timing?
2. Add/Remove forecast element(s)?
3. Add or remove TEMPO forecast?

CAT Color Code

ORANGE

Customer Impacts

Two categories of creating multiple impacts

Regulatory impacts could include:

1. Airfield not being available as an alternate
2. Required alternate airport and additional fuel
3. VFR flights not possible
4. Possible flight delays

Non-regulatory impact could include:

1. Invalid indication to pilots of IFR or MVFR conditions

Forecaster Challenges

Requires **PROMPT** attention

Determining the reason for the discrepancy between the forecast and observation:

1. Forecast timing of event off?
2. Rapidly changing weather?
3. Variable weather?

Decision on when/how to amend:

1. Change timing?
2. Add/remove forecast elements?
3. Add or remove TEMPO forecast?

TPO Color Code

ORANGE

Customer Impacts

Depends on the associated CAT color code as to the severity of the impact(s) possibly imposed

Possible flight delays of two hours or more

Loss of confidence in forecast

Forecaster Actions/Challenges

Requires **IMMEDIATE** attention to

1. Remove completely
2. Change parameters
3. Adjust timing

Determine why TEMPO has not verified for > half valid period?

TEMPO forecasts in lower category than predominate creates immediate CAT notification

When TEMPO forecast is the cause for out of CAT condition, use TPO notification as timing feature to aid in decision making for when to amend versus CAT notification only

CAC Color Code

YELLOW

Customer Impacts

One forecast category off creating one of the singular impacts listed below:

Regulatory impacts

1. Airfield not available as an alternate
2. Alternate airport and fuel required
3. VFR flights not possible
4. Possible flight delays

Non-regulatory impact

1. Invalid indication to pilots of IFR or MVFR conditions

Forecaster Challenges

Requires **TIMELY** attention

Amendment decision can be based on the following:

1. Other sites indicating > impacts?
2. Is the impact regulatory or not?
3. How far off is the forecast?
4. Possible for the forecast to still verify?

TPO Color Code

YELLOW

Customer Impacts/Challenges

Depends on the associated CAT color code as to the severity of the impact(s) possibly imposed

Forecaster Actions/Challenges

Requires **TIMELY** attention to

1. Remove completely
2. Adjust parameters
3. Change timing

Determine why TEMPO has not verified for over an hour

TEMPO forecasts in lower category than predominate creates immediate CAT notification

When TEMPO forecast is the cause for out of CAT condition, use TPO notification as timing feature to aid in decision making for when to amend versus CAT notification only

CAC Color Code

GREEN

Customer Impacts

None within the next few hours of the TAF

Forecaster Challenges

None within the current monitoring time frame. Changing conditions may still warrant a before the fact amendment.

TPO Color Code

GREEN

Customer Impacts

None

Forecaster Challenges

Three possible TEMPO conditions may exist:

1. No TEMPO forecast in TAF
2. TEMPO forecast is currently verifying
3. TEMPO forecast has verified within the past hour

Biggest challenge when TPO is green, but CAT is indicating out of category because of the TEMPO forecast is to recognize that this indicates the TEMPO forecast is still valid and the decision to amend the forecast may be delayed if conditions still warrant.

Use the TPO monitor feature in decision making process on when to act on a TEMPO forecast that is causing the out of CAT indication.

CAC Color Code

PALE GREEN

Customer Impact(s)

For some air carriers, if the visibility is observed to be \geq the lowest published minimums (CAT A) but this is not represented in the TAF, dispatch may not be allowed creating flight delays or possible cancelled flights.

With the exception of the above there are NO CUSTOMER IMPACTS

Forecaster Challenges

Requires **CAREFUL** attention

Situational awareness notification for the following possibilities:

1. Only one element in category
2. Varying ceiling or visibility remark in observation indicates a lower condition than represented in the TAF
3. TEMPO forecast is being verified by varying remark in the observation

Keep in mind that some airlines may be able to dispatch when the visibility forecast is \geq the published minimums (CAT A). If only the ceiling is in category and the visibility is expected to remain at, or improve to $>$ these minimums, an amendment may be warranted.

CURRENT VS PERSISTENCE

Amending **"BEFORE THE FACT"** by focusing on the Right side of AvnFPS
"Live on the RIGHT side"

Customer Impacts

Comparing the current observation/TAF versus TAF +1 (persistence):

1. Current ob, TAF, and TAF +1 in category = **No** short term impact to operations
2. Current ob out of category from current hour TAF – TAF +1 hour and current ob in category = **Low** impact. Take-off and landing based on observation, planning based on TAF
3. Current ob and TAF in category – TAF +1 hour and current ob out of category = **Medium** impact. Planned flights affected based on regulatory impacts imposed by TAF
4. Current ob, TAF and TAF +1 out of category = **HIGH** impact. Current and future operations affected based on regulatory impacts imposed by TAF

Forecaster Challenges

Comparing the LEFT (current) versus the RIGHT (persistence or TAF + 1)

1. Green on the **LEFT** and the **RIGHT** your doing alright!
2. Not **GREEN** on left – **GREEN** on right, you **MAY** be doing all right.
3. **GREEN** on left – not on the **RIGHT** decide **"before the fact"** to ensure forecast timing and parameters are still valid and amend as necessary
4. Not **GREEN** on **LEFT** or the **RIGHT** – forecast impact is immediate and projected further into the future, amendment decision needed ASAP