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Service Change Notice 21-49
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1115 AM EDT Wed May 5 2021

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FROM: Captain James Crocker
 Director, Surface and Upper Air Division
 Office of Observations

SUBJECT: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations to Automated
Radiosonde Observations at Hilo, Hawaii, on or about May 24, 2021

Effective on or about Monday May 24, 2021, radiosonde observations (RAOB) from Hilo, Hawaii, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) number 91285, station identifier PHTO, will be transitioned from manually launched Lockheed Martin 1680 MHz LMS6 radiosondes from the Radiosonde Replacement System (RRS) to the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde using the Vaisala Autosonde as the launch vehicle. This Service Change Notice (SCN) will be updated to include new Datum values if the release point of the observing site is moved.

During the transition period of up to 30 days, dual radiosonde flights may be performed until the Vaisala Autosonde System is declared operational for the regularly scheduled observations of 00Z and 12Z.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO 306 Manual on Codes (International Codes):

Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes
Volume I.2 Part B - Binary Codes
Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices (WMO Region IV)

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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