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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-26 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
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To:            -Subscribers  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:          Bruce Entwistle  
              Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

Subject:       Updated: Operational ICAO Meteorological Information  
Exchange Model (IWXXM) Products for Aviation will be Delayed Until  
on or Around June 30, 2021

NWS will introduce International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) products for aviation on or around June 30, 2021, a delay from the previously planned May 4, 2021 implementation date. These products include eXtensible Markup Language (XML) based representations for products standardized in ICAO Annex 3 and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) No. 49, Volume II. XML products including IWXXM are used for machine-to-machine operational exchanges of meteorological information used in aviation.

Testing found issues in internal dataflows that will be fixed and re-tested by May 21, 2021. Additional stability testing and configuration management pushes the IWXXM implementation date into late June.

When implemented, the WMO ID headers below identify products that users can access via the NWS Telecommunication Gateway (NWSTG) under WMO defined T1T2 (from TTAAii) headers for the following IWXXM data types:

LA -- Aviation Routine Report (METAR)  
LC -- Aerodrome Forecast (short TAF) (valid times < 12 hours)  
LK -- Tropical Cyclone Advisory  
LN -- Space Weather Advisory (SWXA)  
LP -- Special Aviation Weather Reports (SPECI)  
LS -- Significant Meteorological Information (SIGMET)  
LT -- Aerodrome Forecast (long TAF) (valid times >= 12 hours)  
LU -- Volcanic Ash Advisory  
LV -- Aviation Volcanic Ash Warning (VA SIGMET)  
LW -- Airmen's Meteorological Information (AIRMET)  
LY -- Aviation Tropical Cyclone Warning (TC SIGMET)

NWS has already extended the use of XML formatted data to other non-aviation operational products (e.g., Common Alerting Protocol [CAP] messages), and with appropriate notification may extend the use of XML formatted data to other existing operational NWS products.

Until the implementation date, global formatted IWXXM products may become available in parallel with the Traditional Alphanumeric Content (TAC) Operational METeorological (OPMET) data.

For examples of real-time US Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFs) in IWXXM version 3.0, go to the following link:

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/data/raw/lt/>

Other IWXXM messages may be available in the appropriate 1 folder in the /data/raw/folder on tgftp.

More information about IWXXM files can be found in the Product Description Document (PDD) linked below:

[https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD\\_IWXXM\\_Operational\\_2021.pdf](https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_IWXXM_Operational_2021.pdf)

For more information or questions, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are available online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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