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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-31 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1115 AM EDT Mon Aug 31 2020

To: Subscribers:
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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: Captain James Crocker
 Acting Director, Surface and Upper Air Division
 Office of Observations

Subject: Updated: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations
to Automated Radiosonde Observations at Anchorage, Alaska on or
about May 3, 2019

Updated to report the missing Vaisala Autosonde products:
Freezing Level Data (RADAT), High Resolution Binary Universal
Form for the Representation of meteorological data (BUFR),
National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) archive,
were implemented June 1, 2020.

Effective on or about May 3, 2019, radiosonde observations
(RAOB) from Anchorage, AK, World Meteorological Organization
(WMO)# 70273, Station ID PAFC, will be transitioned from the
manually launched Lockheed Martin 1680 MHz LMS6 radiosonde to
the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde using the Vaisala
Autosonde as the launch vehicle.

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.

Messages from the Vaisala Autosonde currently do not contain the
following components: RADAT, High Res BUFR, NCEI archive format.
A software update was to be implemented in 2019 that will
produce these data.

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)

A follow up Service Change Notice (SCN) will be issued when the above stated software update is implemented and the Autosonde RAOB products contain these components.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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