To:     Subscribers
- NOAA Weather Wire Service
- Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
- NOAAPort
Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:    Greg Schoor
Chief, Marine, Tropical, Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: The National Weather Service Began Operational Use of
Inmarsat’s SafetyNET II for Broadcasts of METAREA IV and XII
High Seas Forecasts and Warnings on January 22, 2024

On January 22, 2024, the National Weather Service (NWS) began operational
use of the Inmarsat’s SafetyNET II satellite system for broadcasts of High
Seas forecasts and warnings to METAREAs IV and XII. SafetyNET II is an
upgrade from the legacy SafetyNET system.

High Seas forecasts and warnings for METAREAs IV and XII are also
broadcast via Iridium’s SafetyCast satellite system. SafetyCast and
SafetyNet II have similar names but are different satellite broadcast
systems.

The NWS will also broadcast Tropical Cyclone and Tsunami bulletins, when
appropriate, for METAREAs IV and XII via both satellite systems.

These two satellite systems are a part of an international Global
Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). For more information about
the GMDSS and about SafetyCast and SafetyNet II, visit the link below.

https://www.weather.gov/marine/gmdss

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are available online at:

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