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ADMEMW

NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE FOR EMWIN  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
1140 AM EST FRI FEB 13 2004

TO: EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
USERS

FROM: LARRY CURRAN  
CHIEF...TELECOMMUNICATION OPERATIONS CENTER  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/

AND

ANGELO WADE  
ELECTRONICS ENGINEER...GROUND SYSTEMS DIVISION  
OFFICE OF SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT  
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE...DATA...AND  
INFORMATION SERVICE /NESDIS/

SUBJECT: EMWIN TRANSITION UPDATE 2/13/04

THIS MESSAGE IS PART OF A SERIES OF TRANSITION UPDATE MESSAGES TO  
INFORM EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
USERS OF NEW INFORMATION REGARDING THE TRANSITION OF THE EMWIN  
DATASTREAM. TRANSITION UPDATE INFORMATION IS POSTED ON THE EMWIN  
INDEX PAGE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://IWIN.NWS.NOAA.GOV/EMWIN/INDEXLIST.HTML](http://IWIN.NWS.NOAA.GOV/EMWIN/INDEXLIST.HTML)

THE EMWIN WEB SITE HAS BEEN REVISED AND UPDATED TO NOW INCLUDE  
THE EMWIN TRANSITION PLAN. THE EMWIN TRANSITION PLAN CONTAINS  
THE REASONS FOR CHANGES RELATED TO THE NEW GENERATION OF GOES  
SATELLITES... AN OVERVIEW OF HOW THE TRANSITION WILL BE MANAGED  
AND A DESCRIPTION OF A PROTOTYPE RECEIVER DEVELOPED BY NESDIS  
CAPABLE OF RECEIVING THE NEW DATA STREAM. THE TRANSITION PLAN  
ALLOWS FOR A TRANSITION PERIOD FOR THE COMPLETION OF TESTING AND  
ENCOURAGING VENDORS TO DESIGN AND MARKET NEW RECEIVERS OR  
CONVERSION KITS. FUTURE UPDATES TO THE EMWIN WEB SITE WILL ADD  
SPECIFICATIONS AND A USER GUIDE TO ASSIST MANUFACTURERS IN  
DESIGNING RETROFITS TO EXISTING SYSTEMS OR NEW RECEIVERS.

WE WILL USE EMAILS AND DISCUSSION GROUP TOPICS THAT WE RECEIVE TO  
UPDATE THE EMWIN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS /FAQS/ LOCATED ON THE  
EMWIN INDEX PAGE. CLICK ON /CONTACT US/ TO SUBMIT VIA EMAIL  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TRANSITION.

HERE IS A BRIEF RECAP...EMWIN IS NOW BROADCAST FROM GOES  
/GEOSTATIONARY OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE/ EAST AND WEST  
SATELLITES. WHEN THE NEXT GENERATION GOES SATELLITE SERIES  
(GOES-N AND BEYOND) BECOMES OPERATIONAL... THE EMWIN SIGNAL WILL

NO LONGER BE BROADCAST IN ITS CURRENT FORM. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS CALLED FOR A REDUCTION OF THE EMWIN BROADCAST POWER LEVEL. CURRENTLY... GOES-N IS SCHEDULED FOR LAUNCH IN DECEMBER 2004... FOLLOWED BY A SIX MONTH CHECK-OUT PERIOD... WHICH WILL INCLUDE A SCHEDULED TEST PERIOD FOR USERS OR VENDORS. FOLLOWING THE CHECK-OUT PERIOD... THE SATELLITE WILL BE PLACED IN STORAGE IN ORBIT UNTIL NEEDED OPERATIONALLY. TRANSITION OF THE EMWIN BROADCAST TO GOES-N WILL NOT OCCUR UNTIL SOMETIME BETWEEN JULY 2005 AND 2008... BARRING MULTIPLE CATASTROPHIC SATELLITE FAILURES. MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PRESENT AND NEW EMWIN SYSTEM ARE...

- PROVISION OF A DEDICATED TRANSPONDER OPERATING AT THE LOWER POWER AND ON A DIFFERENT FREQUENCY
- USE OF A MORE EFFICIENT MODULATION AND ERROR CORRECTION SCHEMES TO COMPENSATE FOR THE POWER REDUCTION.

THESE CHANGES IN THE SATELLITE BROADCAST SYSTEM REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE COMMERCIAL SATELLITE RECEIVERS CURRENTLY IN USE, WITH THESE POTENTIAL IMPACTS...

- THE PROTOTYPE RECEIVER DESIGNED BY NESDIS WILL ALLOW COMPUTERS TO USE SOFTWARE /TO BE PROVIDED AT NO COST BY NOAA/ TO PERFORM SOME OF THE RECEIVER FUNCTIONS FORMERLY DONE BY HARDWARE
- COMMERCIAL VENDORS MAY ELECT TO USE THE SOFTWARE BASED DESIGN OR HARDWARE APPLICATIONS TO MEET THE SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS TO DESIGN CONVERSION KITS FOR RETROFITTING CUSTOMER RECEIVERS ALREADY IN USE OR MARKETING NEW RECEIVERS
- WAYS AND MEANS OF MINIMIZING THE POTENTIAL COST IMPACT ON USERS ARE STILL BEING EXPLORED.

RELEASE OF EMWIN SPECIFICATIONS AND AN EMWIN USERS MANUAL IS BEING PLANNED FOR EARLY MARCH 2004.

A CONFERENCE FOR MAJOR USERS AND PROSPECTIVE VENDORS IS BEING PLANNED FOR THE LATTER PART OF APRIL IN SILVER SPRING MARYLAND. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONFERENCE IS ALSO EXPECTED TO BE POSTED ON THE EMWIN WEB SITE IN EARLY MARCH.

THE NEXT TRANSITION UPDATE MESSAGE IS PLANNED AFTER THE EMWIN WEB SITE IS UPDATED TO ANNOUNCE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EMWIN USERS AND VENDORS CONFERENCE IN LATE APRIL. FUTURE EMWIN TRANSITION UPDATES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH EMWIN AND ALSO POSTED ON THE EMWIN INDEX PAGE LISTED ABOVE.

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