

NOUS41 KWBC 261747
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
230 AM EDT THU AUG 26 2004

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER
WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS...
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
/NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: DEIRDRE R. JONES
DIRECTOR...SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CENTER
NWS OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBJECT: VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ AND WATCH BY COUNTY /WBC/
OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION /OTE/

REFERENCE: PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT... SAME SUBJECT
TRANSMITTED AUGUST 20 2004
SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-40 TRANSMITTED JULY 1 2004
SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-45 TRANSMITTED AUGUST 2 2004
SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-51 TRANSMITTED AUGUST 18 2004

A COMBINED VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ AND WATCH BY COUNTY /WBC/
OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION /OTE/ IS SCHEDULED TO RUN FROM
AUGUST 30 2004 TO OCTOBER 15 2004. IN PREPARATION FOR THE OTE...
ON AUGUST 26 2004...MOST OFFICES PARTICIPATING IN THE OTE WILL
TURN ON VTEC.

THIS MEANS OPERATIONAL AND TEST PRODUCTS CONTAINING EXPERIMENTAL
VTEC STRINGS WILL BE ISSUED BY SELECTED NWS WEATHER FORECAST
OFFICES /WFO/ AND THE STORM PREDICTION CENTER /SPC/ STARTING
AUGUST 26 2004. IN ADDITION... ALL OFFICES PARTICIPATING IN THE
VTEC OTE WILL BEGIN USING A SEGMENTED FORMAT FOR FLOOD
WATCHES /FFA/...FLOOD WARNINGS /FLW/ AND FLOOD STATEMENTS /FLS/
/THIS INCLUDES FLOOD ADVISORIES/. NOTE THAT FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS
/FFW/ AND FOLLOWUP STATEMENTS /FFS/ WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED /NON-
SEGMENTED/ THROUGH THE OTE.

NWS OFFICES LISTED IN TABLE 1 ARE SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
VTEC OTE. SOME OFFICES HAVE NOT YET VERIFIED READINESS TO BEGIN
OTE PARTICIPATION AND WILL NOT BEGIN ISSUING APPROPRIATE PRODUCTS
ON AUGUST 26... BUT WILL BEGIN ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 7.

NWS OFFICES LISTED IN TABLE 2 ARE SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
WBC OTE AND EACH HAS VERIFIED READINESS TO BEGIN PARTICIPATION ON
AUGUST 26.

TABLE 1. LIST OF VTEC OTE OFFICES

NWS ALASKA REGION HQTRS AK

/WILL ONLY ISSUE TEST PRODUCTS AND USE WFO ANCHORAGE COMMS ID/

WFO FLAGSTAFF AZ

WFO PHOENIX AZ

WFO SAN DIEGO CA

WFO JACKSONVILLE FL

WFO MELBOURNE FL

WFO TALLAHASSEE FL

WFO TAMPA FL

NWS PACIFIC REGION HQTRS HI

/WILL ONLY ISSUE TEST PRODUCTS AND USE WFO HONOLULU COMMS ID/

WFO DES MOINES IA

WFO BOISE ID

WFO DETROIT MI

WFO PHILADELPHIA/MOUNT HOLLY NJ

WFO LAS VEGAS NV

WFO CHARLESTON SC

WFO CHEYENNE WY

WFO RIVERTON WY

TABLE 2. LIST OF WBC OTE OFFICES

WFO BOISE ID

WFO WICHITA KS

WFO LAKE CHARLES LA

WFO KANSAS CITY/PLEASANT HILL MO

WFO ST LOUIS MO

WFO SPRINGFIELD MO

WFO BILLINGS MT

WFO GLASGOW MT

WFO GREAT FALLS MT

WFO NEWPORT/MOREHEAD CITY NC

WFO RALEIGH NC

WFO WILMINGTON NC

WFO NORMAN OK

SPC NORMAN OK

WFO CHARLESTON SC

WFO COLUMBIA SC

WFO FORT WORTH TX

WFO HOUSTON TX

THE VTEC-WBC OTE IS DESCRIBED IN FURTHER DETAIL IN THE VTEC-WBC OTE TEST PLAN... INCLUDING TEST OBJECTIVES... ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS... AND TEST CONDUCT AND ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES. VTEC IS DESCRIBED IN FURTHER DETAIL IN NWS INSTRUCTION 10-1703 AVAILABLE ON THE NWS DIRECTIVES WEB SITE AND THROUGH A LINK ON THE VTEC WEB SITE. MORE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON VTEC... WBC... AND VTEC/WBC OTE CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT THESE WEB SITES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OS/VTEC](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/vtec)

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OS/WATCH/](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/watch/)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON VTEC-WBC OTE OR THE NWS IMPLEMENTATION
OF VTEC... PLEASE CONTACT:

DEIRDRE JONES...DIRECTOR	HERB WHITE
NWS SYSTEMS ENGINEERING	OR DISSEMINATION SERVICES
CENTER	MANAGER
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND	SILVER SPRING MARYLAND
PHONE: 301-713-0629 EXT. 105	301-713-0090 EXT. 146
E-MAIL: DEIRDRE.R.JONES@NOAA.GOV	HERBERT.WHITE@NOAA.GOV

IF YOU HAVE WBC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

RICHARD OKULSKI
NWS SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM LEADER
SILVER SPRING MD
PHONE: 301-713-1867 EXT. 114
E-MAIL: RICHARD.OKULSKI@NOAA.GOV

THIS AND OTHER VTEC UPDATE NOTICES ARE POSTED ON THE VTEC WEB PAGE
SHOWN ABOVE.

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