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From: Cyndie Abelman  
Chief, Aviation Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on the NWS Experimental Wind Compression Decision Support Graphic at the Fort Worth, TX, CWSU (ZFW) from January 10 through October 1, 2014

Effective Friday, January 10, 2014, at 1700 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) through October 1, 2014, a compression decision support graphic will be posted to the Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) Fort Worth, TX (ZFW) web portal. Aircraft traffic compression occurs when aircraft flying Standard Terminal Arrivals (STARS), following one behind the other, lose adequate horizontal separation from each other. The conditions that create this situation are usually a rapid change in wind direction and speed with respect to altitude and between the two aircraft.

Traffic compression can occur when an aircraft, during descent, transitions from a tailwind, or a weak headwind, to a stronger headwind over a small change in altitude. This change could also occur with a heading change of the aircraft during its approach.

CWSU ZFW has experimented with this product for several years with favorable results. At the end of the comment period, the Experimental Wind Compression Decision Support Graphic will be evaluated for national availability.

The experimental decision support graphic customers include personnel at the Air Traffic Control System Command Center (ATCSCC), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) Traffic Management Unit (TMU),
Terminal Radar Approach Control Facilities (TRACON), airline dispatchers, flight service specialists, CWSU meteorologists, airlines and pilots. This experimental product is posted at:

http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/rtimages/zfw/DFW_Compression.png

NWS is seeking comments through October 1, 2014. Your feedback on this product is greatly appreciated. Please complete the survey at:


For more information concerning the ZFW compression decision support experimental graphic, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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