

NOUS41 KWBC 251449 AAA
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 05-24...UPDATED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
1050 AM EDT TUE OCT 25 2005

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

FROM: ROBERT J. MCLEOD
CHIEF...AWARENESS BRANCH
OFFICE OF CLIMATE...WATER...AND WEATHER SERVICES

SUBJECT: OPERATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VALID TIME EVENT
CODE /VTEC/ IN SEVEN NWS EVENT-DRIVEN PRODUCTS AND
TWO ROUTINE MARINE PRODUCTS: EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1
2005: REMINDER AND UPDATE

UPDATED TO INCLUDE FLEXIBILITY IN IMPLEMENTING VTEC FOR WEATHER
FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ EXPERIENCING HAZARDOUS WEATHER LOCALLY ON
NOVEMBER 1 2005.

ON TUESDAY... NOVEMBER 1 2005 AT 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME
/UTC/... ALL WFOS IN THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES /CONUS/ WILL
TRANSITION FROM EXPERIMENTAL VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ TO
OPERATIONAL VTEC IN SEVEN NWS EVENT-DRIVEN OR NON-ROUTINE PRODUCT
CATEGORIES...INCLUDING ONE NATIONAL EVENT-DRIVEN PRODUCT CATEGORY.
TWO WFO ROUTINE MARINE FORECASTS ALSO WILL TRANSITION FROM USE OF
EXPERIMENTAL VTEC TO OPERATIONAL VTEC ON NOVEMBER 1 2005.

IF NOVEMBER 1 2005 IS DECLARED A NATIONAL CRITICAL WEATHER DAY...
IMPLEMENTATION WILL OCCUR ON THE NEXT WEEKDAY NOT DECLARED A
CRITICAL WEATHER DAY.

UPDATED INFORMATION...IN THE EVENT OF LOCAL HAZARDOUS WEATHER...
WFO/S MAY CHOOSE TO IMPLEMENT VTEC ANYTIME ON NOVEMBER 1 2005
BEGINNING AT 0000 UTC OR...IF NECESSARY...DELAY IMPLEMENTATION
UNTIL THE NEXT DAY.

BEGINNING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE...THE FOLLOWING NWS TEXT
PRODUCT CATEGORIES ISSUED BY CONUS WFO/S WILL CONTAIN OPERATIONAL
VTEC:

WFO EVENT-DRIVEN PUBLIC PRODUCTS

WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION	WCN
WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE	WSW
NON-PRECIPITATION WEATHER MESSAGE	NPW

WFO EVENT-DRIVEN HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS

FLOOD WATCH AND FLASH FLOOD WATCH FFA

WFO EVENT-DRIVEN COASTAL AND MARINE PRODUCTS

COASTAL HAZARD MESSAGE AND LAKESHORE HAZARD
MESSAGE /INCLUDING HIGH SURF/ CFW

WFO EVENT-DRIVEN FIRE WEATHER PRODUCTS

RED FLAG WARNING AND FIRE WEATHER WATCH RFW

NATIONAL EVENT-DRIVEN PRODUCT

WATCH OUTLINE UPDATE /AS NEEDED UPDATES/ WOU

WFO ROUTINE MARINE FORECASTS

COASTAL WATERS FORECAST CWF
GREAT LAKES NEARSHORE FORECAST NSH

THESE OPERATIONAL VTEC PRODUCT CATEGORIES WILL JOIN THE FIVE
PRODUCT CATEGORIES FROM ALL WFO/S WHICH BEGAN USING OPERATIONAL
VTEC ON FEBRUARY 8 2005 AND MARCH 16 2005:

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING SVR
TORNADO WARNING TOR
SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENT SVS
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING SMW
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT /FOLLOW-UP TO SMW/ MWS

COMPLETE INFORMATION ON VTEC CAN BE FOUND IN NWS INSTRUCTION 10-
1703 AND AT THE VTEC WEB SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

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

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

HERB WHITE MARK TEW
DISSEMINATION SERVICES OR PUBLIC WEATHER WARNING
MANAGER PROGRAM MANAGER
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND SILVER SPRING MARYLAND
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THIS AND OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
/USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notif.htm)

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