

NOUS41 KWBC 301652
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 05-28
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
1252 PM EDT THU JUN 30 2005

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

FROM: THOMAS GRAZIANO
ACTING CHIEF...HYDROLOGIC SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: FOLLOW UP TO [SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-56](#)...IMPLEMENTATION OF VTEC
IN HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS

REFER TO: [SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ 04-51 /CORRECTED/](#): TRANSMITTED
AUGUST 18 2004 AND [SCN 04-56](#): TRANSMITTED NOVEMBER 23 2004.

FOLLOWING UP [SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ 04-56](#)...IMPLEMENTATION OF VALID
TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/...THE NEW STANDARDIZED SEGMENTED
FORMATS FOR MOST HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS HAS BEEN DELAYED AND IS NOW
RESCHEDULED TO OCCUR IN PHASES AS DESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE.

ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1 2005 AT 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...ALL
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ IN THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES /CONUS/
WILL OPERATIONALLY IMPLEMENT VTEC AND A STANDARDIZED SEGMENTED FORMAT IN
THE FOLLOWING HYDROLOGIC PRODUCT:

FLOOD WATCH /FFA/

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

ON MONDAY DECEMBER 5 2005 AT 1200 UTC...17 WFOS WILL BEGIN AN OPERATIONAL
TEST AND EVALUATION /OTE/ OF VTEC AND NEW STANDARDIZED SEGMENTED FORMATS
FOR THE FOLLOWING HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS:

FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLW/
FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLS/
AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLW/
FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLS/
FLOOD STATEMENT - AREAL ADVISORIES /FLS/
FLOOD ADVISORY FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLS/
FLOOD WATCH FOR FORECAST POINTS /FFA/

IN ADDITION...WFOS PARTICIPATING IN THE OTE WILL BEGIN USING VTEC IN THE FOLLOWING HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS:

FLASH FLOOD WARNING /FFW/
FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT /FFS/

THIS OTE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FOLLOWING 17 WFOS:

MONTEREY CALIFORNIA /MTR/
PENDLETON OREGON /PDT/
PORTLAND OREGON /PQR/
SEATTLE WASHINGTON /SEW/
SPOKANE WASHINGTON /OTX/
KANSAS CITY /PLEASANT HILL/ MISSOURI /EAX/
LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY /LMK/
OMAHA NEBRASKA /OAX/
SPRINGFIELD MISSOURI /SGF/
ALBANY NEW YORK /ALY/
BLACKSBURG VIRGINIA /RNK/
CHARLESTON SOUTH CAROLINA /CHS/
MT. HOLLY NEW JERSEY /PHI/
WAKEFIELD VIRGINIA /AKQ/
HOUSTON TEXAS /HGX/
MIAMI FLORIDA /MFL/
MORRISTOWN TENNESSEE /MRX/

BEFORE THE OTE STARTS...ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 1 2005...SELECTED WFOS WILL BEGIN ISSUING THE OTE HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS AS PART OF A RISK REDUCTION ACTIVITY. THE WFOS PARTICIPATING IN THIS RISK REDUCTION ACTIVITY WILL BE IDENTIFIED ON THE VTEC WEBSITE AT: [HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/VTEC](http://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/VTEC) AS SOON AS THEIR LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN SELECTED.

PENDING SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE OTE AT THE ABOVE OFFICES...NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FORMATS AND VTEC IN THE HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS DESCRIBED ABOVE IS SCHEDULED TO OCCUR ON APRIL 4 2006.

THE NEW NATIONALLY CONSISTENT PRODUCT FORMAT WILL MAKE IT EASIER TO READ AND OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM FLOOD WARNINGS...STATEMENTS AND ADVISORIES. SEGMENTATION WILL ALLOW MULTIPLE ACTIONS TO BE PROVIDED IN A SINGLE PRODUCT. FOR EXAMPLE...A SINGLE FLOOD STATEMENT FOLLOWING UP A PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FLOOD WARNING COULD HAVE A SEGMENT CONTINUING THE FLOOD WARNING FOR ONE FORECAST POINT AND A SECOND SEGMENT CANCELLING THE FLOOD WARNING FOR ANOTHER FORECAST POINT.

EXAMPLES OF HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS IN THE NEW FORMAT WITH VTEC CAN BE FOUND IN THE LATEST DRAFT OF NWS MANUAL 10-923...WHICH IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/VTEC/VTEC_HYDRO.PDF](http://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/VTEC/VTEC_HYDRO.PDF)

PROCEDURES ON THE CONTENT...FORMAT AND APPLICATION OF VTEC IN HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS CAN BE FOUND IN NWS INSTRUCTION 10-922 ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DIRECTIVES/010/PD01009022G.PDF](http://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DIRECTIVES/010/PD01009022G.PDF)

MORE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON VTEC CAN BE FOUND AT THE VTEC WEBSITE AT
/USE LOWER CASE/:

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

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

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NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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