

NOUS41 KWBC 081643  
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 05-43  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
1145 AM EST THU DEC 8 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: HONOLULU WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ OPERATIONAL  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/  
IN SIX NWS EVENT-DRIVEN PRODUCTS AND ONE ROUTINE  
MARINE PRODUCTS... EFFECTIVE JANUARY 17 2006

REFERENCE:SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 05-24... 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 ISSUED OCTOBER 25 2005

ON TUESDAY JANUARY 17 2006 AT 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME  
/UTC/...THE WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN HONOLULU HAWAII WILL  
TRANSITION FROM EXPERIMENTAL VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ TO  
OPERATIONAL VTEC IN SIX NWS EVENT-DRIVEN OR NON-ROUTINE PRODUCT  
CATEGORIES. ONE WFO ROUTINE MARINE FORECAST WILL ALSO TRANSITION  
FROM USE OF EXPERIMENTAL VTEC TO OPERATIONAL VTEC ON JANUARY 17  
2006. IF JANUARY 17 2006 IS DECLARED A NATIONAL CRITICAL WEATHER  
DAY... IMPLEMENTATION WILL OCCUR ON THE NEXT WEEKDAY NOT DECLARED  
A CRITICAL WEATHER DAY.

THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS CHANGE IS SOONER THAN SPECIFIED BY NWS  
POLICY (NWS INSTRUCTION 10-1805). THE REDUCTION OF THE NORMAL  
ADVANCE LEAD TIME WAS APPROVED BECAUSE THE CUSTOMERS IN HAWAII  
HAVE BEEN BRIEFED BY THE HONOLULU WFO ABOUT THESE SPECIFIC  
CHANGES AND HAVE NOT EXPRESSED ANY PROBLEM WITH THE JANUARY 17  
2006 TRANSITION TO OPERATIONAL VTEC. THIS DATE PROVIDES MORE THAN  
30 DAYS CONTINUOUS USE OF THE EXPERIMENTAL VTEC CODE STRING IN  
THE AFFECTED PRODUCTS SINCE THE NOVEMBER 1 EXPERIMENTAL CODE  
START DATE AND MORE THAN 30 DAYS ADDITIONAL TIME FOR ANY CUSTOMER  
USER BASE TO RESPOND TO THIS CHANGE TO OPERATIONAL CODE.

BEGINNING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE...THE FOLLOWING HONOLULU WFO  
TEXT PRODUCT CATEGORIES 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

FLASH FLOOD WATCH	FFA
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WFO EVENT-DRIVEN COASTAL AND MARINE PRODUCTS

COASTAL HAZARD MESSAGE /INCLUDING HIGH SURF/	CFW
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WFO EVENT-DRIVEN FIRE WEATHER PRODUCTS

RED FLAG WARNING AND FIRE WEATHER WATCH	RFW
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WFO ROUTINE MARINE FORECASTS

COASTAL WATERS FORECAST	CWF
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THIS IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE FOLLOWS THE SUCCESSFULL TRANSITION ON NOVEMBER 1 2005 BY ALL WFOS IN THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES /CONUS/ FROM EXPERIMENTAL VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ TO OPERATIONAL VTEC FOR THE ABOVE LISTED PRODUCT CATEGORIES AS REFERENCED IN SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 05-24 REMINDER AND UPDATE ISSUED OCTOBER 25 2005.

THESE OPERATIONAL VTEC PRODUCT CATEGORIES WILL JOIN THE FIVE PRODUCT CATEGORIES WHICH BEGAN USING OPERATIONAL VTEC ON FEBRUARY 8 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:

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BILL WARD  
SCIENTIFIC SERVICES METEOROLOGIST

PACIFIC REGION HEADQUARTERS  
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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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