

NOUS41 KWBC 081825
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 08-37
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
225 PM EDT THU MAY 8 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: THERESE Z. PIERCE
CHIEF...MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: ADDITION OF THE VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ /S/
SIGNIFICANCE CODE TO THE HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENT
/HLS/: EFFECTIVE JUNE 15 2008

REFER TO: SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ 08-04: TRANSMITTED
FEB 05 2008

BEGINNING JUNE 15 2008 NWS FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ WILL BE ABLE TO ISSUE THE SEGMENTED HLS USING THE /S/ SIGNIFICANCE CODE IN THE VTEC STRING. THE /S/ STANDS FOR STATEMENT AND IS PAIRED WITH A PHENOMENA CODE SUCH AS HU FOR HURRICANE. THE ONLY TROPICAL CYCLONE PHENOMENA CODE USED IN 2008 WILL BE THE HURRICANE PHENOMENA CODE HU EVEN IF THE TROPICAL CYCLONE IS A TROPICAL STORM OR TYPHOON. NWS MAY EXPAND THE USE OF THE /S/ SIGNIFICANCE CODE FOR TROPICAL STORMS AND TYPHOONS FOR FUTURE SEASONS BUT MUST FIRST DEVELOP SOFTWARE.

THE /S/ SIGNIFICANCE CODE IS USED TO DISPEL RUMORS WHEN THERE ARE NO TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCHES OR WARNINGS IN EFFECT OR TO CLARIFY TROPICAL CYCLONE RELATED INFORMATION IN A WFO/S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

THE MASS NEWS DISSEMINATOR HEADER PRODUCT TYPE LINE WILL CARRY THE STORM TYPE OF INTEREST: HURRICANE...TYPHOON...TROPICAL STORM OR TROPICAL DEPRESSION.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE VTEC CODE IS ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/VTEC/](http://www.weather.gov/os/vtec/)

THERE ARE NO CHANGES TO THE AWIPS IDENTIFIERS...WMO PRODUCT HEADINGS OR PRODUCT ISSUANCE TIMES FOR THE HLS.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

SCOTT KISER
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH
1325 EAST WEST HWY ROOM 13126
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND 20910
PHONE: 301-713-1677 EXT 121

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

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm)

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