Service Change Notice 11-20
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1012 AM EDT Thu May 12 2011

To:        Subscribers:
            -Family of Services
            -NOAA Weather Wire Service
            -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
            -NOAAPort
            Other NWS Partners and Employees

From:     Cynthia Abelman, Chief
            Aviation Services Branch

Subject:  Discontinuance of the Experimental Second Generation National Convective Weather Forecast (NCWF-2): Effective June 16, 2011

Effective Thursday June 16, 2011, at 0000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Aviation Weather Center (AWC) will discontinue production and dissemination of the experimental second generation National Convective Weather Forecast (NCWF-2). The current operational first generation National Convective Weather Forecast (NCWF) product will continue to be available.

NCWF-2 is a probabilistic convective forecast developed through the Federal Aviation Administration Aviation Weather Research Program’s Convective Weather Product Development Team. NCWF-2 is currently available only via a direct feed from the AWC in GRIB1 format using the following experimental headers:

ZDA98 KKCI
ZDB98 KKCI
ZDC98 KKCI
ZDD98 KKCI
ZUZA98 KKCI
ZDMA98 KKCI
ZMZA98 KKCI

and in BUFR format under JSAT98 KKCI.

Over the past several years, NCWF-2 has been considered for transition from experimental to operational status. As part of this transition process, detailed objective assessments of the
forecast quality and performance have been completed. Results of the assessments indicated insufficient reliability and resolution for operational implementation.

Since there are no plans to modify or improve NCWF-2 to achieve operational suitability, and the hardware and software technologies supporting the production of NCWF-2 are becoming obsolete, NWS will discontinue the NCWF-2.

If you have any questions about this change, please contact:

David Bright
Chief, Aviation Support Branch
Aviation Weather Center
Kansas City, MO
816-584-7204
david.bright@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive

$$
NNNN