

NOUS41 KWBC 041451
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 14-15
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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TO: Subscribers:
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FROM: Mark Tew
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SUBJECT: Changes to Remarks Section of the Vortex Data
Message for Tropical Cyclones Effective
May 15, 2014

Effective May 15, 2014, the following format changes will take place with the Vortex Data Message (VDM) reported from Department of Defense (DOD) and NOAA aircraft conducting reconnaissance missions for tropical cyclones:

1. The overall MAX WIND at flight level, and the MAX outbound wind in the Remarks Section of the VDM will include a space on either side of the "/", and to include "NM" after the distance value.

The change in format will be consistent to the current Format for the MAX flight level temperature if it's not within 5 nm of the flight level center in the Remarks Section.

Old Format

MAX FL WIND 73 KT 081/25 23:30:30Z
MAX OUTBOUND FL WIND 55 KT 083/14 01:36:00Z

New Format:

MAX FL WIND 73 KT 081 / 25 NM 23:30:30Z
MAX OUTBOUND FL WIND 55 KT 083 / 14 NM 01:36:00Z

2. A new remark for wind direction and speed at the surface will be added to the Remarks Section.

Example:

CNTR DROPSONDE SFC WIND 265 / 12 KT

There are no changes to WMO Headers or AWIPS IDs for the VDM.

VDM formats are provided in the National Hurricane Operations Plan (NHOP), Chapter 5. The 2013 NHOP, along with the 2013 VDM

Message Format, is currently provided online at:

<http://www.ofcm.gov/nhop/13/nhop13.htm>

The 2014 NHOP will be posted online by June 1, 2014, along with the new VDM message format in Table 5-2. A new example VDM will be provided in Figure 5-4.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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Service Change Notices are online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

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