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Service Change Notice 16-50
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From: Tom Evans
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Subject: Discontinuation of the Satellite Interpretation Message (SIM) for Hawaii, and the Significant Cloud Features Chart: Effective December 14, 2016

Effective Wednesday, December 14, 2016, NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu, HI, will discontinue the Satellite Interpretation Message (ATHW40 PHFO, SIMHI) and the Significant Cloud Features Chart. NWS will remove the Significant Cloud Features Chart from the marine fax broadcast transmitted through call sign KVM-70 at 0524 and 1724 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

These legacy products are being discontinued because information they contain is readily available and easily obtained through several other sources.

Existing products that already convey this satellite information are the Area Forecast Discussion (AFDHFO, FXHW60 PHFO) text product and satellite imagery. Satellite interpretation training is readily available. The Area Forecast Discussion describes significant cloud features that have influence on the weather in and around Hawaii and therefore duplicates much of the SIM.

Here are some links available as alternatives to the Satellite Interpretation Message and the Significant Cloud Features Chart:

AFD:

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/pages/AFD.php>
<http://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?issuedby=HFO&product=AFD&site=nws&format=txt>

Satellite Imagery:

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/pages/satellite.php>
<http://www.ssd.noaa.gov/PS/TROP/trop-epac.html>
<http://www.nesdis.noaa.gov/>

Satellite Interpretation Training:

<https://www.meted.ucar.edu/>
https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_detail.php?topicSorting=12&languageSorting=1&module_sorting=publishDateDesc

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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