Service Change Notice 18-34
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1220 PM EDT Mon Apr 2 2018

TO: Subscribers:
- NOAA Weather Wire Service
- Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
- NOAAPort
Other NWS partners, users, and employees

FROM: David Novak
Director, Weather Prediction Center

Subject: Use of Mixed Case Text/95 ASCII Character Set in Selected WPC Forecast Discussion Products Effective May 2, 2018

Effective Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) will continue its transition of text products to a mixed case text/95 ASCII character set format. This phase of the transition will apply to the following select products issued by WPC:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWIPS ID</th>
<th>WMO ID</th>
<th>Product Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QPFHSD</td>
<td>FOUS11 KWBC</td>
<td>Winter Weather Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMDEPD</td>
<td>FXUS02 KWBC</td>
<td>Extended Forecast Discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This expansion in the number of available mixed case text products is a continuation of the NWS transition to the use of mixed-case letters. Use of mixed-case letters in text products will make them easier to read and allow users to click on links directly rather than converting them to lower or mixed case.

Partners and users of WPC text products should modify their systems to accommodate mixed case and the expanded character set.

Examples of WPC products already converted to mixed case are online for sample formatting purposes:

http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/discussions/hpcdiscussions.php?disc=pmdspd
http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/discussions/hpcdiscussions.php?disc=pmdhi

WPC will notify users/partners of future text product transitions to mixed case/95 ASCII character set format via Service Change Notices with 30 days lead time. These notices will include AWIPS product identifiers and actual effective dates.

If a Critical Weather Day (CWD) prevents this change on May 2,
2018, the mixed case text format change will take effect on the next non-CWD day.

For more information, please contact:
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National Service Change Notices are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm

NNNN