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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-70
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1055 AM EDT Mon Aug 12 2019

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FROM: Mark B. Miller
           Director, Surface and Upper Air Division
           Office of Observations

SUBJECT: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations to Automated
           Radiosonde Observations at Kotzebue, AK, on or about
           August 19, 2019

Effective on or about August 19, 2019, radiosonde observations (RAOB)
from Kotzebue, AK, WMO# 70133, Station ID PAOT, will be transitioned from
the manually launched Lockheed Martin 1680 MHz LMS6 radiosonde to the
Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde using the Vaisala Autosonde as the
launch vehicle.

During the transition period of up to 30 days, dual radiosonde flights
may be performed until the Vaisala Autosonde System is declared
operational for the regularly scheduled observations of 00Z and 12Z.

Messages from the Vaisala Autosonde currently do not contain the
following components: RADAT, High Res BUFR, NCEI archive format. A
software update will be implemented later in 2019 that will produce these
data.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO
306 Manual on Codes (International Codes):

-Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes
-Volume I.2 Part B – Binary Codes
-Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices(WMO Region IV)

NWS will issue a follow up Service Change Notice when the above stated
software update is implemented and the Autosonde RAOB products contain
these components.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:
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