TO: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ OFFICES
FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION /FAA/ OFFICES
OTHER NWS AVIATION CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS

FROM: KEVIN L. JOHNSTON
CHIEF...AVIATION SERVICES BRANCH


NOTE: THE FOLLOWING IMPLEMENTATION WILL HAVE NO IMPACT ON NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE SUBSCRIBERS.

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY JULY 25 2006 ... BEGINNING AT 1345 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ ... NWS WILL IMPLEMENT FORMAT CHANGES TO STANDARDIZE THE AIRMENS METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION /AIRMET/ TEXT PRODUCTS. THE PRODUCT IS ISSUED BY THE AVIATION WEATHER CENTER /AWC/ IN KANSAS CITY MISSOURI FOR THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES /CONUS/ AND ADJACENT COASTAL WATERS. SEE TABLE 1 BELOW.

THE FOLLOWING AIRMET STANDARDS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL AIRMETS:

1. THE FREQUENCY OF THE HAZARD OCCURRENCE /OCNL/ AND /FRQ/ WILL NO LONGER BE INCLUDED.

2. TREND REMARKS WILL NO LONGER BE INCLUDED.

3. THE 6 TO 12-HOUR FORECAST OUTLOOK AREAS WILL BE DELINEATED WITH HIGH ALTITUDE VOR LOCATIONS PRECEDED WITH THE /BOUNDED BY/ DESCRIPTOR.

4. THE REASON FOR AMENDING ... CORRECTING OR CANCELING AN AIRMET WILL NO LONGER BE INCLUDED.

5. SIGMET REFERENCE STATEMENTS WILL NOT REFER TO THE SIGMET HAZARD. STATEMENTS SUCH AS /FOR AREAS OF POSS SEV TURB/ AND /FOR AREAS OF POSS SEV ICE/ WILL NO LONGER BE INCLUDED.

INSTEAD THE STATEMENT /SEE SIGMET XXXX SERIES/ WILL BE USED.

FOR EXAMPLE ... /SEE SIGMET TANGO SERIES/.

THE FOLLOWING AIRMET STANDARDS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL AIRMET SIERRA:

1. AIRMET IFR: THE CAUSE OF THE VISIBILITY RESTRICTION WILL BE
LIMITED TO /PCPN/ ... /FU/ ... /HZ/ ... /BR/ ... /FG/ AND /BLSN/.

2. AIRMET MTN OBSCN: THE CAUSE OF THE OBSCURATION WILL BE
LIMITED TO /CLDS/ ... /PCPN/ ... /FU/ ... /HZ/ ... /BR/ AND /FG/.

THE FOLLOWING AIRMET STANDARDS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL AIRMET
TANGO:

1. AIRMET TURB: THE CAUSE OF THE TURBULENCE WILL NO LONGER BE
INCLUDED.

2. AIRMET STG SFC WND: THE CAUSE AND DIRECTION OF THE WIND WILL
NO LONGER BE INCLUDED.

3. LLWS POTENTIAL: WILL INCLUDE A LIST OF AFFECTED STATES.

4. LLWS POTENTIAL: WILL BE DELINEATED USING HIGH ALTITUDE VOR
LOCATIONS PRECEDED BY THE /BOUNDED BY/ DESCRIPTOR.

5. LLWS POTENTIAL: LLWS INFORMATION WILL NOT INCLUDE PHRASES
SUCH AS /BLW 2000 FT/ OR /BLW AGL 020/.

6. LLWS POTENTIAL: THE CAUSE OF THE LLWS WILL NO LONGER BE INCLUDED.

THE FOLLOWING AIRMET STANDARDS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL AIRMET
ZULU:

1. AIRMET ICE: THE ICING TYPES /RIME/ ... /MXD/ AND /CLR/ WILL
NO LONGER BE INCLUDED.

2. AIRMET ICE: THE LOCATION OF ICING WITH RESPECT TO CLOUDS AND
PRECIPITATION /ICGICIP/ ... /ICGIC/ AND /ICGIP/ WILL NO
LONGER BE INCLUDED. INSTEAD THE TERM /ICE/ WILL BE USED.

3. THE FREEZING LEVEL WILL BE DEFINED AS THE LOWEST FREEZING
LEVEL ABOVE GROUND LEVEL OR /SFC/ AS APPROPRIATE.

4. FREEZING LEVELS WILL BE DELINEATED USING HIGH ALTITUDE VOR
LOCATIONS AT INTERVALS OF 4000 FEET ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL OR
/SFC/ AS APPROPRIATE. FREEZING LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS WILL NOT
INCLUDE STATES ... PORTIONS OF STATES OR GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS.

5. AREAS WITH MULTIPLE FREEZING LEVELS ABOVE THE GROUND WILL BE
DELINEATED USING HIGH ALTITUDE VOR LOCATIONS PRECEDED WITH
THE /BOUNDED BY/ DESCRIPTOR.

6. THE RANGE OF FREEZING LEVELS OVER THE AREA WILL BE INCLUDED.

TABLE 1: PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THIS CHANGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WMO HEADER</th>
<th>AWIPS ID</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>PORTION OF CONUS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WAUS41 KKCI</td>
<td>MKCWA1S</td>
<td>AIRMET SIERRA NORTHEASTERN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAUS41 KKCI</td>
<td>MKCWA1T</td>
<td>AIRMET TANGO NORTHEASTERN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WAUS41 KKCI MKCWA1Z AIRMET ZULU NORTHEASTERN

WAUS42 KKCI MKCWA2S AIRMET SIERRA SOUTHEASTERN
WAUS42 KKCI MKCWA2T AIRMET TANGO SOUTHEASTERN
WAUS42 KKCI MKCWA2Z AIRMET ZULU SOUTHEASTERN

WAUS43 KKCI MKCWA3S AIRMET SIERRA NORTH CENTRAL
WAUS43 KKCI MKCWA3T AIRMET TANGO NORTH CENTRAL
WAUS43 KKCI MKCWA3Z AIRMET ZULU NORTH CENTRAL

WAUS44 KKCI MKCWA4S AIRMET SIERRA SOUTH CENTRAL
WAUS44 KKCI MKCWA4T AIRMET TANGO SOUTH CENTRAL
WAUS44 KKCI MKCWA4Z AIRMET ZULU SOUTH CENTRAL

WAUS45 KKCI MKCWA5S AIRMET SIERRA ROCKY MOUNTAIN
WAUS45 KKCI MKCWA5T AIRMET TANGO ROCKY MOUNTAIN
WAUS45 KKCI MKCWA5Z AIRMET ZULU ROCKY MOUNTAIN

WAUS46 KKCI MKCWA6S AIRMET SIERRA PACIFIC COAST
WAUS46 KKCI MKCWA6T AIRMET TANGO PACIFIC COAST
WAUS46 KKCI MKCWA6Z AIRMET ZULU PACIFIC COAST

A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THESE CHANGES WITH EXAMPLES MAY BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/: HTTP://AVIATIONWEATHER.GOV/NOTICE/AIRMET/

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THESE CHANGES CONTACT:

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CHIEF AVIATION SUPPORT BRANCH
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THIS AND OTHER NWS TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/: HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM

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