

NOUS41 KWBC 221443
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL INFORMATION NOTICE 08-67
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
1045 AM EDT FRI AUG 22 2008

TO: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ OFFICES
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION /FAA/ USERS
FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
OTHER USERS OF NWS AVIATION FORECASTS

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

SUBJECT: WEEKLY TEST TAFS TO ENSURE PROPER DECODING OF 30-HOUR
TAF FORMAT TEST

REFER TO SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ 08-15 AND TECHNICAL
IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE /TIN/ 08-37.

NWS WILL BE CONDUCTING TESTING TO ENSURE THAT TAFS ISSUED BY THE
NWS WILL BE RECEIVED AND READABLE BY ALL USERS. THESE TESTS
WILL BE WEEKLY IN NATURE...USUALLY TAKING PLACE WEDNESDAY FOR
OPEN TESTING. THE NEXT TEST DATE FOR OPEN TESTING WILL BE
AUGUST 27 2008.

IN ADDITION TO THE ROUTINE WEEKLY TESTING...SOME TESTS MAY BE
TRANSMITTED AT ANY TIME AS CHALLENGES ARE DETECTED AND OVERCOME.
ALL TESTING WILL USE THE SPECIAL WMO HEADER FTXX90 KWBC TO
DISTINGUISH THE TEST TAFS FROM OPERATIONAL ONES. IN ADDITION
SOME OTHER NATIONS ARE ALSO USING THE FTXX90 CCCC /WHERE CCCC
IDENTIFIES THE NATION/. FOR EXAMPLE THE UNITED KINGDOM IS
SENDING 30-HOUR TAF FORMAT TESTS UNDER FTXX90 EGGR.

A LINK TO THE TAF TESTBED AND TAF FORMAT EXAMPLES IS AVAILABLE
AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/AVIATION/TAF_TESTBED.SHTML](http://www.weather.gov/os/aviation/taf_testbed.shtml)

USERS WILL NEED TO CODE THEIR SYSTEMS FOR FTXX90 KWBC TO RECEIVE
AVAILABLE TEST TAFS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS TECHNICAL INFORMATION
NOTICE...PLEASE REFER TO SCN 08-15 OR CONTACT:

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SSMC-2 STATION 13314
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SILVER SPRING MD 20910
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OR: BETH MCNULTY
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
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SILVER SPRING MD 20910
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NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE
LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm)

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