

NOUS41 KWBC 111400
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL INFORMATION NOTICE 08-73
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
1000 AM EDT THU SEP 11 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: ADDITIONAL TESTS AVAILABLE TUESDAYS
THRU THURSDAYS

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. THE FREQUENCY OF
THESE TESTS WILL INCREASE. USUALLY THE TESTS WILL OCCUR EACH
TUESDAY... WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY. THE NEXT SCHEDULED TEST DATE
WILL BE SEPTEMBER 16 2008.

IN ADDITION TO THE ROUTINE TESTING...SOME TESTS MAY BE
TRANSMITTED AT OTHER TIMES 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.

THE NWS TEST TAFS TRANSMITTED INSIDE THE FTXX90 KWBC BULLETIN
WILL USE THE FOLLOWING FICTIONAL LOCATIONS:

FOR CONUS
KABC
KBCD
KEFG
KHIJ
KIJK
KKLM

FOR ALASKA
PAAB
PAEF

FOR PACIFIC
PHBC

PGAB
PKAB
PTAB

FOR CARIBBEAN
TJAA
TIAE
TNAB
TKAB

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:

MICHAEL GRAF
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
SSMC-2 STATION 13314
1325 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY
SILVER SPRING MD 20910
301-713-1726 X 117
MICHAEL.GRAF@NOAA.GOV

OR

BETH MCNULTY
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
SSMC-2 STATION 13322
1325 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY
SILVER SPRING MD 20910
301-713-1726 X 116
BETH.MCNULTY@NOAA.GOV

NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm)

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