

NOUS41 KWBC 161716
PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 11-08
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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TO: Subscribers:
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-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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FROM: Kevin Schrab
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Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services

SUBJECT: Third Quarter 2011 Dates for Termination of
Automated Radiotheodolite Tracking (ART) and Radio
Direction Finding Radiosondes (RDF) with Installation
of Radiosonde Replacement Systems (RRS)

From April 25 through May 15, 2011, three Upper Air (UA) sites
are scheduled to receive RRS Upgrades. Specific dates are as
follows:

STATION NAME	WMO #	STN ID	OUTAGE DATES
CHUUK	91334	PTKK	25 Apr 2011
POHNPEI	91348	PTPN	05 May 2011
MAJURO	91376	PMKJ	16 May 2011

These UA sites may be out of service for as long as 10 days.
When the NWS UA observations resume, the RRS will be gathering
meteorological data from Global Positioning System (GPS)
radiosondes.

The NWS describes the RRS release point location with the
National Geodetic Survey (NGS) OPUS solution. This is a datum
combination that relies on North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)
for latitude and longitude, whereas the release point elevation
is based on North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD88) with the
GEOID03 model. By contrast the GPS radiosonde flight
information of latitude and longitude and altitude will rely on
the world geodetic system of 1984 (WGS84) standard.

Parts of the UA coded messages will be significantly longer with
RRS conversion. NWS has coordinated with its partners on the
longer length of these messages.

The format of the messages will be the same WMO format for coded
UA messages used with the MicroArt legacy system. The number of

levels in the coded messages will be two to three times greater for the TTBB and TTDD. As a result two categories of AWIPS text products will increase in size: SGL and ABV. The number of levels in the TTAA, TTCC, PPBB and PPDD parts will be relatively unchanged. These changes reflect updated coding practices and higher resolution level selection criteria. The maximum size limits of the parts of the coded messages are as follows:

TTAA: 15 Levels
TTCC: 10 Levels
TTBB: 135 Levels
TTDD: 40 Levels
PPBB: 40 Levels
PPDD: 40 Levels

In addition the 31313 message indicator associated with various parts of the message will be included with each part of the thermodynamic message parts.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO 306 Manual on Codes (International Codes): Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes and Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices. Users can find information on the levels selection criteria used in NWS coding software online at:

<http://www.ua.nws.noaa.gov>

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation notices are online:

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

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