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Technical Implementation Notice 11-39  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
247 PM EDT Mon Aug 8 2011

To:      Subscribers:  
          Family of Services  
          NOAA Weather Wire Service  
          Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
          NOAAPort  
          Other NWS partners and employees

From:     Cynthia Abelman  
          Chief, Aviation Services Branch

Subject:  World Area Forecast Center (WAFC) Internet File  
          System Operational

Effective Thursday, September 8, 2011, at 1400 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Aviation Weather Center in Kansas City, MO, will implement the WAFC Internet File System (WIFS) as an operational system. WIFS will eventually replace the satellite-based International Satellite Communications System (ISCS) for the dissemination of WAFC Washington data.

Beginning September 8, 2011, WIFS will be operationally available and supported 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Before using the service, authorized users must register at the following website:

<http://aviationweather.gov/wifs/>

WIFS is available only to specific users per the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regulations referenced below. WIFS access requests must be approved by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Established in 1982, the ICAO World Area Forecast System (WAFS) supplies meteorological authorities and other users with forecasts of en-route meteorological conditions in digital form. WAFS includes two WAFCs. NWS operates the Washington WAFC, which, in turn, provides the Washington WIFS.

WIFS provides WAFS products and related services as defined by ICAO Annex 3. WIFS complies with ICAO Document 9855 Guidelines on the Use of the Public Internet for Aeronautical Applications, and the associated FAA Advisory Circular 00-62, Internet Communications of Aviation Weather and Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs), dated November 1, 2002.

This circular enables WIFS to support the dissemination of WAFS and related products via the Internet, in accordance with ICAO Annex 10.

WIFS supplies the same meteorological products as those broadcast by ISCS. Such products include upper wind, upper-air temperature, upper-air humidity, direction, speed and height of maximum wind, tropopause height and temperature, and forecast significant weather phenomena. ISCS is scheduled to stop broadcasting WAFS products in June 2012.

For technical questions and support registering user access for WIFS, please contact:

Jim McDuffy  
Aviation Weather Center  
Kansas City, MO 64153  
816-584-7263  
Dennis.J.Mcduffy@noaa.gov

If you have other questions about this notice or the WIFS service, please contact:

Michael Pat Murphy  
Warning Coordination Meteorologist  
Aviation Weather Center  
Kansas City, MO 64153  
816-584-7239  
michael.pat.murphy@noaa.gov

National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

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