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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 11-43  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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From: Tim McClung  
Chief, Science Plans Branch  
Office of Science and Technology

Subject: Upgrade to High Resolution Real Time Global  
Sea Surface Temperature Analysis:  
Effective October 11, 2011

On Tuesday October 11, 2011, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will make several changes to the High Resolution Real Time Global Sea Surface Temperature Analysis system (RTGSSTHR). These changes are expected to improve performance of the RTG sea surface temperature (SST) analysis.

The analysis system changes include:

1. Add use of Remote Sensing Systems (RSS) retrievals of SST from Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer (AMSR) to analysis system.
2. Switch from using NOAA-18 AVHRR SST for retrievals to using NOAA-19.

The combined effect of these changes has resulted in the following improvements to the analysis:

1. Reduced time between observation-based updates of analysis in cloudy regions.
2. Improved bias and rms of the analysis with respect to buoy observations.

Data format, volume, and delivery will not be affected by this implementation.

The RTGSSTHR products are available on the NCEP Server at  
<http://www ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/gfs/prod/sst.YYYYMMDD>  
or

<ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/gfs/prod/sst.YYYYMMDD>

where YYYYMMDD corresponds to the four digit year, two digit month and two digit day.

The data is also available on NOAAPORT with the WMO header ETWA88 KWBI.

The Environmental Modeling Center (EMC) has a publicly available website which can provide users more information concerning the RTGSSTHR:

<http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/sst/>

For questions regarding the scientific content of the RTGSSTHR please contact:

Robert Grumbine  
NCEP/EMC  
Camp Springs, MD 20746  
301-763-8000 x7214  
Robert.Grumbine@noaa.gov

NWS National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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