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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 12-36
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
330 PM EDT Tue Aug 28 2012

To: Subscribers:
        -Family of Services
        -NOAA Weather Wire Service
        -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
        -NOAAPORT
        Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Timothy McClung
        Chief, Science Plans Branch
        Office of Science and Technology

Subject: Change to GRIB encoding of NCEP Stage II and RTMA
          Precipitation Products: Effective September 18, 2012

Effective on or about Tuesday, September 18, 2012, beginning with
the 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) run, the National
Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will make changes to
the Stage II analysis products and the Real Time Mesoscale
Analysis (RTMA)precipitation grids. The subcenter designation in
the GRIB2 encoding will read "4" for Environmental Modeling
Center (EMC).

Currently, the GRIB encoding for the Stage II and RTMA
precipitation analyses have the originating center set to "7"
(for US National Weather Service - NCEP), but the octet for
subcenter has not been set and defaults to zero. To more
accurately designate the data source, NCEP is setting the
subcenter value to "4" for EMC.

NCEP urges all users to ensure their decoder can handle this
change. Sample Stage II and RTMA precipitation files can be
found at:

  ftp://ftp.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/precip/pcprtma.subcenter

The Stage II and RTMA precipitation products are made available
publically on the NCEP FTP server at:

  ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/hourly/prod/

in the nam_pcpcn_anal.YYYYMMDD directories, where YYYYMMDD is the
4-digit year, month and day. In addition, the RTMA precipitation
products are available on NOAAPORT with the WMO headers LEIA98
KWBR and LEMA98 KWBR.

For questions regarding these changes, please contact:

    Ying Lin
    NCEP/EMC/Mesoscale Modeling Branch
    Ying.Lin@noaa.gov
    Before 16 Aug 2012:
    301-763-8000 x7248
    After 20 Aug 2012:
    301-683-3678

NWS National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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