

NOUS41 KWBC 171257
PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 13-32
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
855 AM Thu EDT Oct 17 2013

To: Subscribers:
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From: Cynthia Abelman
Chief, Aviation Services Branch

Subject: Introduction of World Area Forecast System (WAFS)
Upper Air Forecasts for FL410 (175 mb) effective
November 5, 2013

Effective Tuesday, November 5, 2013, at 1200 Coordinated
Universal Time (UTC), the NWS will introduce FL410 (Flight
level 41,000 ft) temperature, geopotential height, and wind
(u and v component of wind) to the WAFS Upper Air data set.

This additional data is being implemented in accordance with the
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) WAFS Operations
Group seventh meeting.

This change will use the following new WMO Headers:

Weather Element	WMO Header
175 mb (FL410) Height	YHX*18 KWBC
175 mb (FL410) Temperature	YTX*18 KWBC
175 mb (FL410) U Wind	YUX*18 KWBC
175 mb (FL410) V Wind	YVX*18 KWBC

Where * is replaced with a letter referencing the
forecast valid time from issuance

- * = C - 06 hour forecast
- * = D - 09 hour forecast
- * = E - 12 hour forecast
- * = F - 15 hour forecast
- * = G - 18 hour forecast
- * = H - 21 hour forecast
- * = I - 24 hour forecast
- * = J - 27 hour forecast
- * = K - 30 hour forecast
- * = L - 33 hour forecast
- * = M - 36 hour forecast

In support of the World Area Forecast System, the NWS (WAFC) Washington provides global gridded forecasts of upper wind and temperature data covering Flight Levels FL050-530, tropopause heights and temperature, maximum wind (height, speed, direction), turbulence, icing, and cumulonimbus clouds based on output from the Global Forecast System Numerical Weather Model. This data can be used in flight planning systems to optimize flights routes or to generate a range of charts, such and wind and temperature charts, cross sections, etc.

The aforementioned gridded products are produced four times daily, and are available in GRIB2 format on the WAFS Internet File System (WIFS). WIFS is available to registered users at:

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

Due to the government shutdown, this notice is being sent with less than the required notification time. NWS does not have the ability to change the effective date of this WAFC change.

For technical questions, and support in registering a user account at the WIFS website, or downloading and accessing the GRIB2 data, contact:

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If you have any questions about this change, or the WAFS Global Grids data set, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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