

NOUS41 KWBC 221350  
PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 15-49  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
950 AM EDT Thu Oct 22 2015

To:       Subscribers  
          -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
          -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
          -NOAAPORT  
          Other NWS Partners and Employees

From:     Terrance J. Clark  
          Director, WSR-88D Radar Operations Center

Subject:  WSR-88D Volume Coverage Pattern Changes tentatively  
          scheduled to deploy in February 2017

NWS will eliminate four current Volume Coverage Patterns (VCPs) in WSR-88D Radar Data Acquisition (RDA)/Radar Product Generation (RPG) Software Build 18.0: VCPs 11, 211, 21 and 221. They will be replaced with a new pattern, VCP 215. VCPs 12, 212, 121, 31, and 32 will remain in the system. Build 18.0 Beta Test is tentatively scheduled for February 2017, with full deployment the following during spring and summer 2017.

VCP 215 will include the same elevation angles as VCPs 12/212 below 10 degrees, and the same angles as VCPs 11/211 above 10 degrees. The data quality will be comparable to VCP 21. The completion time of VCP 215 will be approximately 6 minutes. AVSET and one SAILS cut will be operator selectable with VCP 215. VCP 215 will be ideal for general weather surveillance and during light precipitation events.

In addition, another new VCP will be introduced for use during clear-air or winter precipitation. VCP 35 will include the same elevation angles up to 6.4 degrees as those used by VCPs 12/212/215. VCP 35 will complete in approximately 7 minutes. One SAILS cut will be operator selectable.

These VCPs share a common set of elevation angles with severe weather VCPs 12/212, increase the elevation coverage over the current suite of routine surveillance patterns, and provide SZ-2 Doppler processing for the split cut elevations. More information on the VCP changes is available:

[http://www.roc.noaa.gov/WSR88D/PublicDocs/NewTechnology/New\\_VCP\\_Paradigm\\_Public\\_Oct\\_2015.pdf](http://www.roc.noaa.gov/WSR88D/PublicDocs/NewTechnology/New_VCP_Paradigm_Public_Oct_2015.pdf)

Sample data sets of VCP 35 and VCP 215 are available on the Radar Operations Center's New Technologies website:

<http://www.roc.noaa.gov/WSR88D/NewRadarTechnology/NewTechDefault.aspx>

For more information, contact:

Jessica Schultz  
NWS Radar Focal Point  
Radar Operations Center  
[Jessica.A.Schultz@noaa.gov](mailto:Jessica.A.Schultz@noaa.gov)

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

NNNN