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Technical Implementation Notice 16-21 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
745 AM EDT Mon Jul 5 2016

To: Subscribers:
-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: Paul Iwugo
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NCEP Central Operations

Subject: Amended: Model Analysis and Guidance Website imagery
product URL path change on or about August 16, 2016

Amended to change the effective date from August 6, 2016, to
August 16, 2016

In an effort to improve performance of the Model Analysis and
Guidance (MAG) website during periods of high end-user demand,
the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will be
updating the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) of certain graphic
products.

On or about August 6, 2016, the Global Forecast System (GFS)
model directory for each cycle will be subdivided into multiple
directory levels. This change affects our customers who access
graphic products by using a direct URL address and not those
using the MAG website user interface. Two additional directory
levels have been added for area and parameter name.

Currently, the URL for a GFS image file is:

<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<cycle>/<filename>>

After August 6, 2016, the new GFS URL will be:

<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<cycle>/<area>/<parameter>/<filename>>

where cycle=00,06,12,18

The area and parameter name fields are the choices made through
the MAG web interface to navigate to and display the image and
are also used in the filename of the product. The GFS filenames
follow this pattern:

gfs_<area>_<forecast hour>_<parameter>[<size>].gif

where the optional size = _l or _s, and indicates a large or small image, if available.

This URL change also applies to images accessed using the date in the URL path. Currently, a URL that includes the date directory level for a GFS image file is:

<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<date>/<cycle>/<filename>>

After August 6, 2016, the new GFS URL will be:

<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<date>/<cycle>/<area>/<parameter>/<filename>>

where cycle=00,06,12,18 and date=yyyymmdd

For questions regarding these changes, please contact:

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NWS National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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