Technical Implementation Notice 16-34 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
145 PM EDT Fri Dec 2 2016

TO: Subscribers:
- NOAA Weather Wire Service
- Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
- NOAAPORT
- Other NWS partners and NWS employee

FROM: William Bauman
Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

SUBJECT: Amended: Implementation of new METAR and TAF collectives for the United States, for International Distribution, effective December 8, 2016

NOTE: The following changes have no impact on NOAA Weather Wire Service subscribers

Amended to change effective date to December 8, 2016

Effective December 8, 2016, at 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the following collectives will be added to the Washington OPMET databank for international distribution.

SAUS21 KWBC SPUS21 KWBC FTUS21 KWBC
SAUS22 KWBC SPUS22 KWBC FTUS22 KWBC
SAUS23 KWBC SPUS23 KWBC FTUS23 KWBC
SAUS24 KWBC SPUS24 KWBC FTUS24 KWBC
SAUS25 KWBC SPUS25 KWBC FTUS25 KWBC

These collectives will be implemented in response to FAA requirements that all US METARs used by international carriers must contain the remarks section of the METAR. Under current practice, the METAR with remark is not sent out internationally. In addition, the legacy collectives that do not comply with new FAA requirements will be discontinued. These collectives are noted below.

Additionally the United States will now include all U.S. TAFs and their associated METARs per the request from the International Airline and Transportation Association (IATA). In the past, only 450 TAFs and METARs were distributed.

The following legacy METAR and TAFs collectives will be discontinued after January 15, 2017:

SAUS71 KWBC SPUS71 KWBC FTUS71 KWBC
SAUS72 KWBC SPUS72 KWBC FTUS72 KWBC
This change will be transparent to WIFS users. WIFS users can log into the WIFS testbed to view the additional TAF and METARs, see (password protected):

http://testbed.aviationweather.gov/wifs/data/

Note that users of WIFS will no longer be able to retrieve METAR without Remarks, effective November 30 all U.S. METAR reports on WIFS will have the Remarks Section.

Regional OPMET data centers and other users that receive the new collectives directly can test them here after September 14:

tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnt/DF.an/DC.sf1nd/DS.icaom
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnt/DF.an/DC.sf1nd/DS.icaot

Domestic US collectives such as FTUS80 KWBC and SAUS80 KWBC among others will not be affected. This change only affects US METAR and TAF for international distribution.

For questions regarding the new OPMET collectives, contact:

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National NWS Technical Implementation notices are available at:

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

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