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PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 05-48  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
355 PM EDT FRI JUN 17 2005

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: MIKE CAMPBELL  
CHIEF...OBSERVING SERVICES DIVISION  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE...WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES

SUBJECT: OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT TEST /OAT/ RADIOSONDE REPLACEMENT SYSTEM  
/RRS/ AND FLIGHT OF RECORD AT STERLING VA: EFFECTIVE JULY 25 2005

ON JULY 25 2005...NWS STERLING VIRGINIA WILL TERMINATE UPPER AIR  
OBSERVATIONS USING THE RADIO DIRECTION FINDING RADIOSONDES AND TRACKING  
SYSTEM. THE UPPER AIR OPERATIONS WILL BE RESTORED USING THE RADIOSONDE  
REPLACEMENT SYSTEM /RRS/ WITH THE NEW GLOBAL POSITIONING SYTEM /GPS/  
RADIOSONDES. THE SITE WILL BE OUT OF SERVICE UP TO TWO WEEKS. ONCE  
RESTORED...SOME PARTS OF THE UPPER AIR CODED MESSAGES WILL BE  
SIGNIFICANTLY LONGER.

THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS CHANGE IS SOONER THAN SPECIFIED BY NWS  
INSTRUCTION 10-1805. [TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE /TIN/ 05-34](#)...ISSUED  
MAY 2 2005...PROVIDES THE SPECIFIC CODING OF THIS CHANGE. AS A  
CONSEQUENCE OF THE CARIBOU TEST...NWS HAS BEEN COORDINATING WITH PARTNERS  
OVER THE LENGTH OF THESE MESSAGES. THE FORMAT HAS NOT CHANGED. A DELAY  
OF SCHEDULE WOULD BE COST PROHIBITIVE.

STARTING NO SOONER THAN 0000 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ ON OR ABOUT  
AUGUST 1 2005...WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RRS AT STERLING...THERE  
WILL BE A CHANGE IN THE LENGTH OF CODED MESSAGES. THE FORMAT OF THE  
MESSAGES WILL BE THE SAME WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ FORMAT  
FOR CODED UPPER AIR MESSAGES IN USE WITH THE MICROART LEGACY SYSTEM. THE  
NUMBER OF LEVELS IN THE CODED MESSAGES WILL BE TWO TO THREE TIMES GREATER  
FOR THE TTBB AND TDD PARTS. THE NUMBER OF LEVELS IN THE  
TTAA...TTCC...PPBB AND PPDD PARTS WILL BE RELATIVELY UNCHANGED. THESE  
CHANGES REFLECT UPDATED CODING PRACTICES AND HIGHTER RESOLUTION LEVEL  
SELECTION CRITERIA. THE MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS OF THE PARTS  
OF THE CODED MESSAGES FOLLOW:

TTAA: 15 LEVELS  
TTCC: 10 LEVELS  
TTBB: 135 LEVELS  
TTDD: 40 LEVELS  
PPBB: 40 LEVELS  
PPDD: 40 LEVELS

IN ADDITION...THE 31313 MESSAGE INDICATOR ASSOCIATED WITH THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE MESSAGE WILL BE INCLUDED WITH EACH PART OF THE THERMODYNAMIC MESSAGE PARTS. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE MESSAGE REQUIREMENTS...PLEASE REFERENCE THE WMO 306...MANUAL ON CODES...INTERNATIONAL CODES...VOLUME 1.1 PART A-ALPHANUMERIC CODES AND WMO 306...MANUAL ON CODES...REGIONAL CODES AND NATIONAL CODING PRACTICES...VOLUME II. INFORMATION ON THE LEVELS SELECTION CRITERIA USED IN NWS CODING SOFTWARE AT THE FOLLOWING SITE UNDER THE NWS RADIOSONDE REPLACEMENT SYSTEM /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.UA.NWS.NOAA.GOV](http://www.ua.nws.noaa.gov)

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR FEEDBACK...CONTACT:

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NATIONAL TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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