How to interpret the AFM/PFM Product:

DATE					FRI 01/19/07							SAT 01/20/07							SUN
UTC 3HRLY	20	23	02	05	08	11	14	17	20	23	02	05	08	11	14	17	20	23	02	05	08	11
CST 3HRLY	15	18	21	00	03	06	09	12	15	18	21	00	03	06	09	12	15	18	21	00	03	06
MIN/MAX						33			50					27			50					33
TEMP		36	35	34	33	33	35	45	50	44	36	31	30	28	30	43	50	46	39	36	35	34
DEWPT		35	34	33	33	32	29	26	23	22	20	21	22	22	21	18	18	21	24	26	27	29
RH		96	96	96	100	96	78	47	34	41	52	66	72	78	69	36	28	37	54	67	72	82
WIND DIR		NE	E	NW	NW	NW	NW	NW	NW	NW	NW	NW	N	NW	NW	N	NW	N	N	NE	E	E
WIND SPD		4	3	5	6	10	12	14	16	17	9	10	8	8	9	9	8	6	3	2	3	5
WIND GUST							24	27	28	29	19	20										
CLOUDS		OV	OV	OV	OV	OV	SC	SC	SC	SC	SC	SC	SC	SC	B1	B1	B1	B1	B2	B2	OV	OV
POP 12HR						30			5					5				5				10
QPF 12HR						0			0					0				0				0.02
SNOW 12HR					00-00			00-00					00-00									
DRIZZLE		AR																				
RAIN		C																				
SPRINKLES			S	S																		
OBVIS		F	PF	PF	PF	PF																
WIND CHILL					27	25	26				23	22	20	22								28
MIN CHILL		30		26		24		22			21		18		17				32			28

DATE	01/21/07			MON 01/22/07				TUE 01/23/07				WED 01/24/07				THU 01/25/07		
UTC 6HRLY	17	23	05	11	17	23	05	11	17	23	05	11	17	23	05	11	17	23
CST 6HRLY	12	18	00	06	12	18	00	06	12	18	00	06	12	18	00	06	12	18
MAX/MIN		41			37		50		32		45		26		45		26		38
TEMP	38	40	38	37	46	45	35	33	41	40	29	26	39	40	29	27	34	35
DEWPT	32	36	37	36	36	35	33	30	27	25	23	21	20	19	21	24	23	22
PWIND DIR		E			NE		NW		NW		NW		NW			W		W
WIND CHAR		GN			LT		LT		LT		GN		GN			GN		BZ
AVG CLOUDS	OV	OV	B2	B2	B1	B1	B2	B2	B2	B2	B1	B1	SC	SC	B1	B1	SC	SC
POP 12HR		70			70		50		30		20		20		10		10	
RAIN						C	C			S	S							
RAIN SHWRS		L	L	C		C												

FORECAST PARAMETERS :

Taken line by line ... **the upper matrix ...**

1) MIN/MAX - The forecast maximum or minimum temperature. MIN/MAX is located near the ending time of each 12 hour period for which it is forecast out to 48 hours. The maximum temperatures are forecast from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Local Time. Minimum temperatures are forecast from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Local Time, but on occasion the low temperature for the night may occur after 7:00 a.m. In the example, a minimum (or "low") temperature of 32 degrees is forecast between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. CST ending Sunday February 9, to be followed by a maximum (or "high") temperature of 50 degrees between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. CST.

2) TEMP - The expected temperature at a specified time, in degrees Farenheit. The temperature is forecast in 3 hour intervals.

3) DEWPT - The expected dewpoint temperature at a specified time, in degrees Farenheit. The dewpoint temperature is forecast in 3 hour intervals.

4) RH - The relative humidity based on the expected temperature and dewpoint.

5) WIND DIR - The expected direction from which wind should blow at 3 hour intervals. The 8 point compass is used (e.g., W, NW, N. . . etc.) Dashes (- -) represent no wind direction forecast due to a calm wind.

6) WIND SPD - The expected average wind speed in miles per hour, during each three hour time period.

7) WIND GUST - The expected wind gust speed in miles per hour, during each three hour time period.

8) CLOUDS - The expected cloud cover during each 3-hour time period. The contractions used and their meanings are as follows:
CL = CLEAR SKIES (0-5% CLOUD COVER)
FW = SUNNY or MOSTLY CLEAR SKIES (6-25% CLOUD COVER)
SC = MOSTLY SUNNY (day) or PARTLY CLOUDY (night) SKIES (26-50% CLOUD COVER)
B1 = PARTLY SUNNY (day) or MOSTLY CLOUDY (night) SKIES (50-69% CLOUD COVER)
B2 = MOSTLY CLOUDY SKIES (70-87% CLOUD COVER)
OV = CLOUDY SKIES (87-100% CLOUD COVER)

9) POP 12HR - The probability of precipitation is for a 12-hour "daytime" period, or a 12-hour "nighttime" period. This percentage probability is listed toward the ending time of each period for which it applies. In the example, there is a 20% probability of precipitation during the day Sunday. There is an 80% probability of precipitation overnight Sunday night.

10) QPF 12HR - The amount of rainfall expected in each 12-hour period ("daytime"/"nighttime"). The values given are in inches, and may be in ranges. For example: ".01-.10" means between a hundredth and a tenth of an inch during the 12-hour period.

11) SNOW 12HR - The amount of snowfall expected in each 12-hour period ("daytime"/"nighttime"). The values given are in inches.

Additional lines, such as "RAIN", "WIND CHILL", and "MIN CHILL" in the example above, are included in the upper matrix **if any of the following are in the forecast for that 48-hour period:**

WIND CHILL = "How it feels" based on temperature and wind each 3 hours
MIN CHILL = Lowest wind chill over last 6 hour period
HEAT INDEX = "How it feels" based on temperature and relative humidity each 3 hours
MAX HEAT = Highest heat index over last 6 hour period
RAIN = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is RAIN
RAIN SHWRS = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is RAIN SHOWERS
SPRINKLES = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is SPRINKLES
TSTMS = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is THUNDERSTORMS
DRIZZLE = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is DRIZZLE
SNOW = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is SNOW
SNOW SHWRS = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is SNOW SHOWERS
FLURRIES = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is SNOW FLURRIES
SLEET = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is ICE PELLETS
FRZNG RAIN = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is FREEZING RAIN
FRZNG DRZL = Precipitation type for each 3 hour period is FREEZING DRIZZLE

EACH PRECIPITATION PARAMETER IS CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS...
IS = ISOLATED (10-20% COVERAGE)
S = SLIGHT (10-20% PROBABILITY)
SC = SCATTERED (30-50% COVERAGE)
C = CHANCE (30-50% PROBABILITY)
NM = NUMEROUS (60-70% COVERAGE)
L = LIKELY (60-70% PROBABILITY)
O = OCCASIONAL (80-100% PROBABILITY)
D = DEFINITE (80-100% PROBABILITY)
AR= AREAS

OBSTRUCTIONS TO VISIBILITY ARE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS...
F = FOG
PF = PATCHY FOG
F+ = DENSE FOG
PF+ = PATCHY DENSE FOG

Taken line by line ... **the lower matrix** or "Extended" Forecast ... (after the time lines)

1) MIN/MAX - The forecast maximum or minimum temperature. MN/MX is located near the ending time of each 12 hour period for which it is forecast. The maximum temperatures are forecast from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Local Time. Minimum temperatures are forecasted from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Local Time, but on occasion the low temperature for the night may occur after 7:00 a.m. In the example, a minimum (or "low") temperature of 32 degrees is forecast between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. CST ending Wednesday February 12 (the *morning low* for Wednesday, which is the same thing as the "overnight" low for Tuesday Night). That minimum will be followed by a maximum (or "high") temperature of 54 degrees between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. CST Wednesday.
2) TEMP - The expected temperature at the specified time, in degrees Farenheit. The temperature is forecast in 6 hour intervals.
3) DEWPT - The expected dewpoint temperature at the specified time, in degrees Farenheit. The dewpoint temperature is forecast in 6 hour intervals.

4) PWIND DIR - Primary wind direction for each 12 hour period
5) WIND CHAR - Wind characteristic for each 12 hour period, where
LT = LIGHT (< 8 MPH)
GN = GENTLE (8-14 MPH)
BZ = BREEZY (15-22 MPH)
WY = WINDY (23-30 MPH)
VW = VERY WINDY (31-39 MPH)
SD = STRONG (>40 MPH)
HF = HURRICANE (>=74 MPH)
6) AVG CLOUDS - Average cloud cover for each 12 hour period, where
CL = CLEAR SKIES (0-5% CLOUD COVER)
FW = SUNNY or MOSTLY CLEAR SKIES (6-25% CLOUD COVER)
SC = MOSTLY SUNNY (day) or PARTLY CLOUDY (night) SKIES (26-50% CLOUD COVER)
B1 = PARTLY SUNNY (day) or MOSTLY CLOUDY (night) SKIES (50-69% CLOUD COVER)
B2 = MOSTLY CLOUDY SKIES (70-87% CLOUD COVER)
OV = CLOUDY SKIES (87-100% CLOUD COVER)

7) POP 12HR - The probability of precipitation is for a 12-hour "daytime" period, or a 12-hour "nighttime" period. This percentage probability is listed toward the ending time of each period for which it applies. In the example, there is a 10% probability of precipitation during the day Friday. There is a 30% probability of precipitation Friday Night (overnight).

Additional lines, such as "RAIN", in the example above, are included in the lower matrix **if any of the following are in the forecast in the extended period:**
WIND CHILL = "How it feels" based on temperature and wind each 3 hours
MIN CHILL = Lowest wind chill over last 6 hour period
HEAT INDEX = "How it feels" based on temperature and relative humidity each 3 hours
MAX HEAT = Highest heat index over last 6 hour period
RAIN = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is RAIN
RAIN SHWRS = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is RAIN SHOWERS
SPRINKLES = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is SPRINKLES
TSTMS = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is THUNDERSTORMS
DRIZZLE = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is DRIZZLE
SNOW = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is SNOW
SNOW SHWRS = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is SNOW SHOWERS
FLURRIES = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is SNOW FLURRIES
SLEET = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is ICE PELLETS
FRZNG RAIN = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is FREEZING RAIN
FRZNG DRZL = Precipitation type for each 6 hour period is FREEZING DRIZZLE

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PF+ = PATCHY DENSE FOG