

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 60-24
MAY 30, 2012**

Information Technology

GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

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OPR: W/OPS31 (L. Burton)

Certified by: W/OPS (R. Vogt)

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This directive supersedes the National Directive System (NDS) Policy Directive 60-24 Global Telecommunications System dated March 4, 2004. Changes made are: 1) Telecommunications Operations Center (TOC) was moved from the Office of the Chief Information Office (OCIO) to the Office of Operational Systems (OPS) in 2010.

1. The Global Telecommunication System (GTS) of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) connects meteorological centers throughout the world for the exchange of weather related data. It is comprised of a variety of terrestrial and satellite based weather related telecommunications circuits, operated by WMO Member countries. This directive establishes the framework for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service (NWS) participation in international data exchange via the GTS.

2. The objective of this policy is to ensure GTS data exchange is effectively conducted between the United States and selected Member countries as prescribed by the WMO. It is the policy of the NWS that it will equally share the cost for GTS circuitry established between it and other Member countries.

3. This directive establishes the following authorities and responsibilities:

3.1 The Assistant Administrator for Weather Services is responsible for ensuring NWS compliance with WMO GTS policy.

3.2 The OPS is responsible for ensuring international commitments of the NWS regarding GTS operations are met.

3.3 The OPS Operations Support & Performance Monitoring Branch (OPS31), is responsible for the coordination of NWS GTS data requirements with other Member countries to ensure the successful exchange of meteorological information.

3.4 The OPS Telecommunications Software Branch (OPS33), is responsible for the technology development, infrastructure design, and protocol implementation to support the exchange of data on the GTS.

3.5 The OPS Telecommunications Infrastructure Branch (OPS34), is responsible for the acquisition of the telecommunications circuitry needed to support NWS international agreements regarding the GTS.

4. The effectiveness of this policy will be measured by monitoring all telecommunications circuits circuitry associated with the GTS on a 24-hour/day, 7-day/week basis by the NWS OPS Telecommunication Gateway Operations Branch (OPS32), with corrective actions taken as necessary, to ensure the continuous operation of the GTS circuitry.

5. This policy directive is supported by the references and glossary of terms listed in Attachment 1.

John L. Hayes

05/16/2012

Signed

Date of Signature

John L. Hayes
Assistant Administrator for National Weather Services

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

Manual on the Global telecommunication System, #386, Volume I, Global Aspect, 2009, ISBN: 92-63-12386-1

Manual on the Global Telecommunication System, #386, Volume II, Regional Aspect, 1991, ISBN: 92-63-63386-X

Terms

GTS-Global Telecommunication System

NWS-National Weather Service

WMO-World Meteorological Organization