



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
1325 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3283

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chair, ACCB - Joseph Facundo

FROM: Chair, ATRB – Jerald Dinges (signed May 7, 2009)

SUBJECT: ASOS Ceilometer Decision

At the May 7th ASOS Test Review Board (ATRB) Meeting, the board recommended the ASOS Configuration Control Board (ACCB) approve switching the CL31 ceilometer to the operational ceilometer at all Operational Test & Evaluation sites currently operating with the present ASOS ceilometer (CT12K) and the new ceilometer (CL31) as a test sensor.

Attached, for your information, is the Final Report for the CL31/CT12K Meteorological Comparison Evaluation (MCE) that was performed at 8 sites (7 Operational ASOS sites and 1 ASOS “test” system at the Sterling Field Support Center) using ASOS Acquisition Control Unit firmware version (V) 2.79V and Data Collection Platform V2.0 Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory from September 2008 through April 2009. The results of the evaluation support the use of the new ceilometer as an operational replacement to the current CT12K ceilometer on ASOS. It also documents the differences between the two ceilometers in reporting sky conditions. This information will be incorporated in a Technical Implementation Notice (TIN) that will be sent to the ASOS user community ahead of the official switch. In addition, each Weather Forecast Office will issue a Public Notification Statement using the information in the TIN to notify users of their local ASOSs ahead of the switch.

The final report will be posted at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/asos_ceilometer.htm

Also, for your information is the Microsoft PowerPoint presentation provided to the ATRB on May 7th as background information to support their recommendation.

Please sign in the appropriate block provided:

Concur: _____ (signed May 7, 2009) _____ (Joseph Facundo)

Let's Discuss: _____ (Joseph Facundo)

Attachments (2)



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