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Public Information Statement 11-xx  
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To:           Subscribers  
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From:         Joseph Facundo  
              Chief, NWS Observing Systems Branch

Subject:      Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) for  
              Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS)  
              Software version 3.05 (v3.05)

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

The ASOS product improvement program will begin an OT&E on ASOS software v3.05 on or about October 3, 2011.

The new v3.05 software load provides some 58 new functionalities to ASOS, and includes 23 operational fixes to the current operational baseline v2.79D. The new capabilities will help ASOS to meet the encoding requirements for METAR/SPECI reports as outlined in the Federal Meteorological Handbook No. 1 (FMH-1), improve quality control logic for automated data, improve information provided in log files, add the reporting of ice accretion amounts, add the Ice Free Wind (IFW) sensor quality control algorithm, and provide support for the Federal Aviation and Administration's (FAA) Weather Sensor Processor (WSP) program.

A new capability of v3.05 is the addition of an Ice Accretion Remark on the one minute page and in the METAR and SPECI observations. The amount of ice accreting on a flat surface (planar icing); as estimated by the data from the freezing rain sensor; will be included in the remarks

section of the METAR / SPECI reports. The remark will have the format of "Ihnnn," where "h" is the hourly time period, i.e., 1, 3 or 6 hours. The value "nnn" is the ice thickness accumulated to the nearest 0.01 inch. A toggle for the ice accretion remark to be included in the METAR/SPECI reports is located on the PHYSICALS page (REVUE-SITE-PHYS).

The OT&E will be conducted in two phases. Phase 1 is scheduled to take place at 16 FAA service level D and O sites starting on or about October 3, 2011. Phase 2 is scheduled to take place at 26 FAA service level A, B, and C sites starting in the winter of 2011-2012. Phase 2 will start once the FAA trains the Air Traffic Controllers (ATC), and Contract Weather Observers (CWO's) on the changes in v3.05.

The duration of the OT&E will be approximately 6 months, running through the winter months of 2011-2012. The OT&E will conclude sometime during the spring or summer of 2012.

More detailed information on v3.05 software can be found at:

[http://www.weather.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/asos\\_v3.htm](http://www.weather.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/asos_v3.htm)

Phase 1 (16 Sites) installation of ASOS v3.05 software beginning on or about 10/03/2011:

BFD - Bradford, PA  
RME - Rome, NY  
TAN - Taunton, MA  
POR - Portage, AK  
ANJ - Sault Ste. Marie, MI  
WAL - Wallops Island, VA  
GIF - Winter Haven, FL  
ATT - Austin, TX  
LOL - Lovelock, NV  
OLS - Nogales, AZ  
CLM - Port Angeles, WA

U.S. Navy Sites:

KNAK - Annapolis, MD  
KNGU - Norfolk NAS, VA  
KNKT - Cherry Point MCAS, NC  
KNBC - Beaufort MCAS, SC

KNIP - Jacksonville NAS, FL

Phase 2 (26 Sites) beginning sometime during the winter of 2011-2012:

HIO - Portland, OR  
GKN - Gulkana, AK  
JNU - Juneau, AK  
FAI - Fairbanks, AK  
DSM - Des Moines, IA  
GRB - Green Bay, WI  
PIA - Peoria, IL  
SGF - Springfield, MO  
TOP - Topeka, KS  
BIS - Bismark, ND  
COU - Columbia, MO  
ACY - Atlantic City, NJ  
CLE - Cleveland, OH  
ORH - Worcester, MA  
PWM - Portland, ME  
ITO - Hilo, HI  
LIH - Lihue, HI  
TRI - Bristol, TN  
DFW - Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX  
TUL - Tulsa, OK  
P68 - Eureka, NV  
PDT - Pendelton, OR  
SLC - Salt Lake City, UT  
TUS - Tucson, AZ  
BFI - Boeing Field, MT  
BIL - Billings, MT

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Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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