

1. INTRODUCTION

After the VTEC OT&E ends on October 15, 2004, VTEC will be turned off for hydrologic products. Sites will continue to use VTEC for the WBC products and the non-hydrological products tested during the VTEC OT&E. The product status code for these products will remain this same (i.e., “E” for WBC products and “X” mode for all other products). Below are instructions for configuring WarnGen to disable the VTEC code for hydrological products at the end of the VTEC OT&E.

For most WarnGen products, VTEC will remain turned on after the OT&E finishes. For the FFW and FFS products, WarnGen VTEC will be turned off. Unfortunately, the WarnGen VTEC software switch turns off VTEC for all WarnGen products, so the only way to turn VTEC OFF for hydro products and keep VTEC ON for other WarnGen products is to modify the WarnGen hydro templates. To avoid WarnGen VTEC QC errors with hydro products, the WarnGen QC configuration file also needs to be modified to disable QC for the hydro products. Each workstation also needs to be localized.

2. EDIT WARNGEN HYDROLOGIC TEMPLATES

The VTEC lines in all WarnGen hydro templates need to be commented out. The following are the baseline templates:

```
wwa_dam_break.preWWA
wwa_ffw.preWWA
wwa_ffw_svr.preWWA
wwa_fflood_sta.preWWA
wwa_fflood_sta_county.preWWA
```

Edit your customized hydro templates in /dsdata/customFiles. If you have changed the names of any of the templates, be sure to edit the correct templates. Don’t edit these templates in /dsdata/nationalData. The changes likely will be overwritten by a future AWIPS software install.

To comment out the VTEC lines, add “/” at the beginning of each VTEC line. When done, the VTEC lines in the hydro templates should look like the following:

```
wwa_dam_break.preWWA:
//&/O. NEW. $$wmoVal ue! . FF. W. 0001. <START|ymdthmz|gmt>-<EXPI RE|ymdthmz|gmt>/
//&/$$severi ty! . $$i mCause! . 000000T0000Z. 000000T0000Z. 000000T0000Z. 00/

wwa_ffw.preWWA:
//&/O. NEW. $$wmoVal ue! . FF. W. 0001. <START|ymdthmz|gmt>-<EXPI RE|ymdthmz|gmt>/
//&/O. $$i mCause! . 000000T0000Z. 000000T0000Z. 000000T0000Z. 00/
```

wwa_ffw_svr.preWWA:

```
//&/O. NEW. $wmoVal ue! . FF. W. 0001. <START|ymdthmz|gmt>-<EXPI RE|ymdthmz|gmt>/
//&/O. $i mCause! . 000000T0000Z. 000000T0000Z. 000000T0000Z. 00/
//&/O. NEW. $wmoVal ue! . SV. W. 0001. <START|ymdthmz|gmt>-<EXPI RE|ymdthmz|gmt>/
```

wwa_fflood_sta.preWWA:

```
//&/O. $SACT_VAL! . $VTEC_EVENT! . 000000T0000Z-<EXPI RE|ymdthmz|gmt>/
//$$HYDRO_VAL!
```

wwa_fflood_sta_county.preWWA:

```
//&/O. $SACT_VAL! . $VTEC_EVENT! . 000000T0000Z-<EXPI RE|ymdthmz|gmt>/
//$$HYDRO_VAL! { [$SACT_VAL2! X. ne. X] |
///O. $SACT_VAL2! . $VTEC_EVENT2! . 000000T0000Z-<EXPI RE|ymdthmz|gmt>/}
```

3. EDIT WARNGEN QC CONFIGURATION FILES

The WarnGen QC configuration files reside in /dsdata/nationalData (**Note:** the symbolic link for /dsdata is /data/fxa) and control the WarnGen QC on all workstations. The same QC configuration files may also be on the workstations in /awips/fxa/data/localizationDataSets/LLL (where LLL is the site ID). It would be best to remove any QC configuration files on the workstation as these override the QC configuration from /dsdata/nationalData.

The file textQC.config is the operational WarnGen QC file. The file textQC.config.SEGSVS is the file that will be activated when WarnGen segmented followup products are implemented nationally (currently scheduled for November 3, 2004).

Edit both files (textQC.config and textQC.config.SEGSVS) by adding “#” at the beginning of the FFW and FFS lines. This will disable the QC checking for these products. When done, the FFW and FFS entries should look like:

textQC.config

```
#FFW {l ocal Warni ngI nfoTest FFW} EXE Y N Y Y N N {Fl ash Fl ood Warni ng}
#FFS NONE INT Y Y Y Y N N {Fl ash Fl ood Statement}
```

textQC.config.SEGSVS

```
#FFW {l ocal Warni ngI nfoTest FFW} EXE Y N Y Y N N {Fl ash Fl ood Warni ng}
#FFS {l ocal Warni ngI nfoTest D FFS} EXE Y N Y Y N N {Fl ash Fl ood Statement}
```

Beware that after AWIPS software installs, these changes may be overwritten. After editing these files, back them up in a safe location.

The WarnGen VTEC configuration file (/dsdata/nationalData/warnGenVTEC.mode) should not need editing. It should contain “EXP”. This will produce VTEC products in “X” mode.

4. LOCALIZE THE WORKSTATIONS AND TEST WARNGEN

Each workstation needs to be localized. Be sure to localize each workstation separately (don’t try to run more than one localization at a time). To do this:

- a) log on to the workstation as “fxa”
- b) **cd /awips/fxa/data/localization/scripts**
- c) **./mainScript.csh -wwa**

Now restart D2D and WarnGen on each workstation. Be sure to test WarnGen to verify that the hydro products can be created correctly and that they do not contain VTEC. Both the FFW and followup FFS products should be tested. You may want to also test the other WarnGen products to verify that they still work correctly. If it is not possible to store and transmit test products, use the flat text technique described below. This permits WarnGen products to be created without storage or dissemination on AWIPS.

5. WARNGEN FLAT TEXT TESTING INSTRUCTIONS

The general plan here is to create warnings that are not saved or sent (but stored as Unix flat files so that WarnGen sees them), then verify that the warnings and followups are created correctly.

Read all instructions **THOROUGHLY** before testing.

Note: If you have used the Flat Text Testing Methodology before, then you may have a CCCNNNXXX directory. In this set of instructions, the CCCNNNXXX directory has been changed to TESTAPROD. Apparently, there has been some confusion with this naming convention and therefore, the name for the directory has been changed.

(1) Open a telnet window on your testing workstation and become user “fxa”. Change directories to /data/fxa and verify that a flatText sub-directory already exists.

```
cd /data/fxa  
ls -l flatText
```

(2) If a flatText sub-directory already exist, then move on to Step 3. Otherwise, create a flatText sub-directory by using the following commands.

```
mkdir -p /data/fxa/flatText
```

(3) Verify that under the flatText sub-directories that you have the following sub-directories for the products that you will test. Note: on the last four sub-directories, please use the actual “CCCNNNXXX” for your site. In the example below, we set up the appropriate directories for WFO Sterling, VA.

```
cd /data/fxa/flatText  
ls
```

The five sub-directories are:

TESTAPROD (Note: This sub-directory needs to be 9 characters long)
WBCSVRLWX
WBCTORLWX
WBCFFWLWX
WBCSMWLWX

(4) If these sub-directories already exist, then move on to Step 5. Otherwise, create these sub-directories (only for the products you will test) using the following commands.

```
mkdir /data/fxa/flatText/TESTAPROD  
mkdir /data/fxa/flatText/WBCSVRLWX  
mkdir /data/fxa/flatText/WBCTORLWX  
mkdir /data/fxa/flatText/WBCFFWLWX  
mkdir /data/fxa/flatText/WBCSMWLWX
```

(5) Stop all D2D sessions on your test workstation.

(6) Open two additional telnet windows and become "awipsusr" in both windows.

(7) In one telnet window, enter these commands as "awipsusr":

```
(a) setenv FXA_FLAT_FILE_TEXT TRUE  
(b) setenv FXA_WARNGEN_PRODUCT_ID TESTAPROD
```

(8) Double check that the environmental files are set properly.

```
(a) echo $FXA_FLAT_FILE_TEXT
```

<response> **TRUE**

```
(b) echo $FXA_WARNGEN_PRODUCT_ID
```

<response> **TESTAPROD**

(9) After confirming that the environmental files are set properly, Start D2D using the following commands.

```
(a) cd /awips/fxa/bin  
(b) start-d2d -nokeypad (This will start D2D)
```

Now WarnGen will send products to the /data/fxa/flatText/TESTAPROD sub-directory (instead of the text editor) with a file name format `yyyymmdd_hhmmss`.

(10) Once you have started D2D using the Flat Text Testing Mode, check to see if it is set up correctly. To do this, from the Tools Menu, start up a Text Window and attempt to display a METAR (for example, WBCMTRIAD). If the METAR displays in the Text Window then **DO NOT "SAVE" ANY WARNINGS - DO NOT GO ANY FURTHER - RESTART at STEP 7.** If a GUI pops up with the following message ***"AN ERROR OCCURRED READING WBCMTRIAD. THIS COULD BE A NETWORK OR DATABASE ERROR. SORRY, NO FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE."***, then your D2D is no longer connected to the Informix Database and you can proceed to Step 11.

(11) Confirm that you are using the Flat Text Testing Mode by using WarnGen to create an innocuous product, like a Short Term Forecast (NOW).

(12) After pressing "CREATE TEXT", the Short Term Forecast should be located in /data/fxa/flatText/TESTAPROD. In the second "awipsusr" telnet window, verify that the warning is in the /data/fxa/flatText/TESTAPROD sub-directory by typing the following command. ***If a Text WarnGen window appears on the Text Workstation, then the Flat Text Test Method is not working - Restart at Step 7.***

```
cd /data/fxa/flatText/TESTAPROD  
ls -lt
```

(13) The result should look like the following (product created on 5/17/04 at 12:24:32 Z):

```
-rw-rw-r- 1 awipsusr fxalpha 902 May 17 12:24 20040517_122432
```

(14) You can examine the product:

```
more *122432
```

(15) After you have confirmed that the Short Tem Forecast has made into the TESTAPROD directories, you can move on to creating warnings. Use WarnGen to create a warning of your choice (i.e., TOR, SVR, FFW or SMW). For my example, I will use a Flash Flood Warning issued by WFO Sterling (i.e., CCNNNXX=WBCFFWLWX).

(16) Repeat steps 12 through 14 to view or edit your product. You should use a command line editor of your choice to include "TEST" in the appropriate place according to latest directive to make it a test warning.

(17) You have two methods to "store" your products. The recommended approach is to continue to use the Flat Text Test Method (Option A) when testing and verifying your templates. Option B may want to be used when training the staff on the new OB3.3 functionality (such as VTEC and Product Segmentation).

Option A: Now move your test warning to the appropriate sub-directory (for our example: Move the Flash Flood Warning into the WBCFFWLWX directory).

```
mv *122432 ../WBCFFWLWX
```

The “mv” command will make the workstation think that the product has been “stored” in the text database and transmitted.

Option B: You can also simulate this in a Text Window, by the Text Window option under the D2D Tools Menu. **DO NOT USE A TEXT WINDOW FROM THE TEXT WORKSTATION.** *To call up the product, type TESTAPROD for the product ID. You may enter the Editor to test the QC. When you enter the Editor, make sure that you mention “TEST” throughout the warning according to the Directives. Remember to ONLY hit the SAVE button. The product will then be “stored” in the appropriate directory (for our example, the Flash Flood Warning will be “stored” in the WBCFFWLWX directory). DO NOT HIT THE “SEND” BUTTON. OTHERWISE, THE PRODUCT WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE WORLD.*

(18) Now go back to WarnGen, and select the followup product (FFS in our example). Use “UPDATE LIST” to make sure the followup list is updated. You may have to wait several seconds for the FFW to appear in the followup list. Use “UPDATE LIST” again if needed. You should see the FFW listed in the WarnGen “followup” pull down menu with options to cancel or continue the warning.

(19) Adjust the warning box if needed, and confirm that the followup is functioning correctly.

(20) Press "CREATE TEXT" and examine the followup product in /data/fxa/flatText/TESTAPROD. If you want to "transmit" the followup, "mv" the file to the same directory as the original warning as in step (17) above.

(21) When done, be sure to exit D2D, then exit all the telnet windows on the test workstation. If this is not done, the next person to use WarnGen will not be able to save or send WarnGen products.