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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-02 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Captain James Crocker
 Acting Director, Surface and Upper Air Division
 Office of Observations

Subject: Updated: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations
to Automated Radiosonde Observations at Del Rio, TX, on or about
January 24, 2020

Updated to report the properly formatted Vaisala Autosonde RADAT
and National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI) Archive
products were implemented June 19, 2020.

Updated to correct the status of RADAT, NCEI Archive, and High
Resolution BUFR products. These three products were
operationally implemented with the deployment of the Del Rio
autosonde.

Effective on or about January 24, 2020, radiosonde observations
(RAOB) from Del Rio, TX, World Meteorological Organization
(WMO)# 72261, Station ID KDRT, will be transitioned from the
manually launched Lockheed Martin 1680 MHz LMS6 radiosonde to
the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde using the Vaisala
Autosonde as the launch vehicle.

During the transition period of up to 30 days, dual radiosonde
flights may be performed until the Vaisala Autosonde System is
declared operational for the regularly scheduled observations of
00Z and 12Z.

The RADAT and NCEI archive messages are imperfect due to
improper formatting. NWS will issue a Service Change Notice
(SCN) when the software update is implemented and the Autosonde
RAOB products contain these components.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO 306 manual on Codes (International Codes):

- Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes
- Volume I.2 Part B - Binary Codes
- Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices (WMO Region IV)

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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