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Service Change Notice 21-26 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1155 AM EDT Fri Aug 27 2021

To: Subscribers:
         -NOAA Weather Wire Service
         -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
         -NOAAPort
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From: Bruce Entwistle
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Subject: Updated: Operational ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange
Model (IWXXM) Products for Aviation are Delayed until on or around
September 29, 2021

Updated to delay IWXXM products until on or around September 29, 2021.

NWS will introduce International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) products for aviation on
or around September 29, 2021, a delay from the previously planned August
24, 2021 implementation date. These products include eXtensible Markup
Language (XML) based representations for products standardized in ICAO
Annex 3 and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) No. 49, Volume II.
XML products, including IWXXM, are used for machine-to-machine operational
exchanges of meteorological information used in aviation.

30-day stability testing of a major code release identified model
processing issues that required a patch fix and a restart of the 30-day
test. (IWXXM was not part of the required fix.). This restart plus
configuration management make IWXXM available on the NWS Telecommunication
Gateway (NWSTG) in late September. NWS is also making IWXXM available via
public Application Programming Interfaces (API) on or about November 1,
2021.

When implemented, the WMO ID headers below identify products that users
can access via the NWS Telecommunication Gateway (NWSTG) under WMO defined
T1T2 (from TTAAii) headers for the following IWXXM data types:

LA -- Aviation Routine Report (METAR)
LC -- Aerodrome Forecast ("short" TAF) (valid times < 12 hours)
LK -- Tropical Cyclone Advisory
LN -- Space Weather Advisory (SWXA)
LP -- Special Aviation Weather Reports (SPECI)
LS -- Significant Meteorological Information (SIGMET)
LT -- Aerodrome Forecast ("long" TAF) (valid times >= 12 hours)
LU -- Volcanic Ash Advisory
LV -- Aviation Volcanic Ash Warning (VA SIGMET)
LW -- Airmen's Meteorological Information (AIRMET)
LY -- Aviation Tropical Cyclone Warning (TC SIGMET)

NWS has already extended the use of XML formatted data to other non-aviation operational products (e.g., Common Alerting Protocol [CAP] messages), and with appropriate notification may extend the use of XML formatted data to other existing operational NWS products.

Until the implementation date, global formatted IWXXM products may become available in parallel with the Traditional Alphanumeric Content (TAC) OPerational METeorological (OPMET) data.

For examples of real-time US Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFs) in IWXXM version 3.0, go to the following link:

https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/data/raw/lt/

Other IWXXM messages may be available in the appropriate "l" folder in the /data/raw/folder on tgftp.

More information about IWXXM files can be found in the Product Description Document (PDD) linked below:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_IWXXM_Operational_2021.pdf

For more information or questions, please contact:

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https://www.weather.gov/notification/

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