



SATELLITE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP (SADISOPSG)

THIRTEENTH MEETING

Dakar, Senegal, 27 to 29 May 2008

Agenda Item 5: Content of the SADIS broadcast

5.1: OPMET information

IMPLEMENTATION OF 30-HOUR TAF

(Presented by the ISCS Provider State)

SUMMARY

This paper presents an overview of the United State's preparation to implement the 30-hour TAF.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 With the addition of Amendment 74 to Annex 3, the International Civilian Aviation Organization (ICAO) made provisions for a 30 hour TAF. This was in response to requirements by long haul operations to provide better service. The United States is providing a website to allow all users to become familiar with the new TAF code format. This paper provides information on accessing the web page, and giving vendors and users an opportunity to test their systems appropriately.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 At the fourth meeting of World Area Forecast System Operations Group (WAFSOPSG) the United States and several other attending States agreed to populate a website with training material and sample 30 hour TAFs. The goal is to provide users an opportunity to begin testing TAFs from as many countries as possible, as early as possible.

2.2 In addition it was noted at the WAFSOPSG, that States are encouraged to begin early coordination on matters that relate to changes in the Annex for the provision of services. The earlier the coordination is put into place then there is higher likely of a successful transition to new capabilities.

In the spirit of that discussion, the United States is providing sample 30 hour TAFs, and basic training at the following link...http://www.weather.gov/os/aviation/taf_testbed.shtml

2.3 This website is updated with ideas and suggestion from contributing States. Members of this meeting are invited to forward sample 30 hour TAFs from their State for inclusion to this site. In addition to your 30 hour TAF, please forward any ideas for training and/or improvement to this website. The contact person is Mike Graf (National Weather Service). Email michael.graf@noaa.gov

2.4 The National Weather Service operates the Washington OPMET data bank, which contains aviation METAR, TAF, and SIGMET data. In support of the 30 hour TAF, the Washington OPMET databank plans on sending sample 30 hour TAFs at 1400 GMT, during the last Wednesday of each month through October. The WMO header will be under FTXX90 KWBC. (Subject to change).

3. ACTION BY THE SADISOPSG

3.1 The group is invited to note the information contained in this paper.

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