



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**NINTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC OPMET MANAGEMENT  
TASK FORCE (OPMET/M TF/9)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 21 – 23 March 2011

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**Agenda Item 2: Review**

**c) Inter-Regional exchange and new requirements for OPMET  
information**

**- Harmonization of OPMET data on SADIS and ISCS**

**CURRENT STATUS OF OPMET ON WAFS FILE SERVER AND THE CUSTOMER  
SERVICE FUNCTION**

(Presented by the WAFC Washington Provider State)

**SUMMARY**

This paper examines WIFS, its evolution from the ISCS data feed, to harmonization with SADIS, and finally working with other States to improve OPMET availability and reliability.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In the past the Washington and London Regional Tele-Communications Hubs (RTHs) disseminated the Satellite Distribution Service (SADIS) and the International Satellite Communication System (ISCS) data differently. This led to a lack of harmonization of data between SADIS and ISCS/WAFS Internet File Service (WIFS) Washington RTH has made changes to mitigate those differences. At the same time, WAFC Washington has instituted a management system to ensure that the OPMET data made available on the WIFS is using the same operational requirement as defined by SADIS User Guide (SUG) Annex 1 and 4.

**2. CHANGES SINCE 2009-10**

2.1 The reason for the non-uniformity between the two Satellite broadcasts was attributed to how the collectives were assembled by the RTHs. The SADIS provider State uses the originating WMO bulletin to include the originating states CCCC where possible. On the other hand the Washington RTH rebuilt the collective using the KWBC as the CCCC at the end of the WMO ID. This process worked for years in that vendors who were familiar with procedures at the NWS RHT understood how to database the collectives so end users would find access to OPMET information transparent to them. But with the transition to a Internet -based server this process was not

acceptable. The procedure was changed at the Washington RTH and now aligns with SADIS for the products available on WIFS. For example if a State sends a collective with OPMET data, the WMO ID that feeds ISCS/WIFS and SADIS will now be harmonized.

2.2 Another problem that has been corrected is how the US assembled collectives for aerodromes that were required for broadcast per Annex 1 of the SUG. See APPENDIX A for the collectives that are AFTN and ICAO compliant.

2.3 As of January 2011, the WIFS meets the requirements for required OPMET data as defined by SUG Annex 1. Similarly, WIFS is providing the WAFS products as defined by SUG Annex 4.

2.4 During the past several weeks Washington WAFC has been quality controlling the data feed to ensure that the information being provided is in compliance with SUG. Our data comparisons between WIFS and SADIS FTP is showing that we are achieving almost 98% compatibility, The 98% needs to be understood that if both WAFC receive the data users should have a high confidence level that the same OPMET information is available from both systems.

2.5 If a States finds OPMET data that is listed in SUG Annex 1, but not available on WIFS, contact WIFS Customer Service.:

E-mail: [wifs.admin@noaa.gov](mailto:wifs.admin@noaa.gov)  
Phone: +1 877 280-2811

For each operational issue identified, a trouble ticket will be generated and users will be sent an e-mail with the trouble ticket number. Users should refer to this ticket number in all follow-up correspondence with the WIFS Customer Support Desk.

Additional information is available in the WIFS User Guide at [https://aviationweather.gov/wifs/images/upload/WIFS\\_Users\\_Guide\\_v4.0.pdf](https://aviationweather.gov/wifs/images/upload/WIFS_Users_Guide_v4.0.pdf)

### **3. CONCLUSION**

3.1 The products available on WIFS are stable and undergoing minor changes to ensure harmonization between SADIS and WIFS Users are encouraged to transition and test WIFS to ensure the services being provided meet their operational needs per Annex 3. The Washington WAFC values States/Users input and welcomes any comments or further evaluations. Please contact WIFS Customer Service so this information can be tracked.

### **4 ACTION BY THE OPMET TF**

4.1 The OPMET TF is invited to:

- a) Note the information contained in this paper and formulate appropriate action by the meeting if necessary.

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## APPENDIX A

Below are recently acquired AFTN/ICAO compliant collectives for TAFs, METARs and SPECIALs, which are assigned to different regions of the US.

- Northeastern US...FTUS71, SAUS71 and SPUS71
- Southern US.....FTUS72, SAUS72 and SPUS72
- Central US.....FTUS73, SAUS73 and SPUS73
- Western US.....FTUS74, SAUS74 and SPUS74
- Alaska/Pacific .....FTUS75, SAUS75 and SPUS75

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