



International Civil Aviation Organization

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

Bangkok, Thailand, 21 – 23 March 2011

Agenda Item 2: a) Review current status of OPMET exchange in the region

WIFS USER IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

(Presented by United States of America)

SUMMARY

This Working Paper conveys the updated information on regional implementation of the World Area Forecast System (WAFS) Internet File Service or (WIFS) to replace the existing International Satellite Communication System-2nd Generation (ISCS-G2). The ISCS-G2 contract expires on June 30, 2012. Current ISCS users need to register with the WIFS to obtain an account and password to access WAFS products and OPMET data. Information on how to register can be found at WIFS web site at <http://aviationweather.gov/wifs>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 At the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Communications/Meteorology (COM/MET) Divisional Meeting in April 1982, it was unanimously agreed that two States/Members would accept responsibility for operation of a World Area Forecast System (WAFS) that provides global products in support of flight planning. The United States (U.S.) and the United Kingdom established World Area Forecast Centres (WAFS) to provide this capability and agreed to provide a satellite broadcast to disseminate these products. Establishment of two centres allowed for the needed redundancy to ensure continuity of service in the event of a failure or disruption of service at one of the centres.

1.1.2 The U.S., in accepting the responsibility of being a WAFS provider State, currently operates a satellite broadcast for the distribution of WAFS products through its ISCS-G2 contract. However, in June 2012, the ISCS-G2 contract will expire and the satellite service will be terminated.

1.1.3 The U.S. has already deployed the alternate for ISCS to fulfill its obligations to ICAO. This alternate is the WAFS Internet File Service (WIFS) where authorized users can access WAFS products via the Public Internet.

1.2 WIFS Coordination in ASIA/PAC region

1.2.1 The US presented a working paper at the APANPIRG CNS/MET SG-13 in July 2009 outlining the options and the process to select WIFS. The US also presented various working papers to the APANPIRG OPMET Management TF/8 and CNS/MET SG-14 in 2010 in response to concern about security and Quality of Service.

1.2.2 The Asia/Pacific Regional Office has since distributed two State Letters :

- a) State Letter T.4/8.4, T 4/8.4.1:AP073/10 (MET), Dated 10 May 2010 Informing Member States and current users of ISCS the planned replacement of ISCS-G2 with WIFS.
- b) State Letter T.4/8.4 & T 4/8.5:AP149/10 (MET), Dated 27 September 2010 Requesting Member States and current ISCS-G2 Users to update their Point of Contact for WIFS Transition Coordination.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1. WIFS is now operationally available for use as either the primary means for users to access WAFS data products and as a back-up to the ISCS. WIFS is also available as a back-up to SADIS FTP users.

2.2 After June 2012, WIFS will be the only means for users to obtain WAFS data products from the Washington WAFC. Users are responsible for arranging access to the Public Internet, and also for any required modifications to WAFS workstation software necessary to download WAFS products off of the WIFS.

2.3 The online registration form, and all related WIFS information, (including the WIFS Users Guide) can be found on the WIFS web site at <https://aviationweather.gov/wifs/>.

2.4 The following are the States in the region that have completed the registration and have been actively access WIFS web site:

Table 1-WIFS REGISTERED AND ACITVE USERS

STATES	USER ID	NAME	EMAIL
Australia	WAFSYMMC01	Ian Senior	i.senior@bom.gov.au
China	WAFSZBAA02 WAFSZBAA01	Ke Wang Jin Shan	wangke1.66@tom.com ashan_1981@163.com
French : - New Caledonia - Toulouse	WAFSNWWN03 WFSLFBF01	Michel Argent Simon Patrick	contact-iscs-nc@meteo.fr patrick.simon@meteo.fr
Malaysia	WAFSWMKK01	Ab Llah Che Cob	ablah@met.gov.my
New Zealand	WAFSNZKL01	Keith Mackersy	mackersyk@caa.govt.nz
Singapore	WAFSWSS01	Chua Guat Mui	chua_guat_mui@nea.gov.sg
Thailand	WAFSVTB01	Siree Vatnavigkit	siree@aerothai.co.th

2.5 The following States have been registered but have not been active accessing WIFS server. These States are encouraged accessing WIFS to better prepared for March 2012 operation.

Table 2-WIFS REGISTERED USERS BUT INACTIVE

STATES	USER ID	NAME	EMAIL
Australia <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSYMML01	Shona Rosengren	srav@bom.gov.au
Brunei Darussalam <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSWBSB01	Yunus Tahir	ymt@brunet.bn
China <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSBABJ01 WAFSZBAA03	Yuen Aimin Liang	lycowner@163.com
Fiji <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSNFFN01	Leonard Bale; Makereta Cinavilakeba	Leonard.Bale@met.gov.fj Makereta.Cinavilakeba@met.gov.fj
French: New Caledonia <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSNWWN02	Dominique Bielli	contact-iscs-nc@meteo.fr
French: Toulouse	WAFSNFFN01 WAFSTFFR02 WAFSSOCA03 WAFSNWWN01		
Hong Kong, China <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSVHHH04	Pak-wai Chan	pwchan@hko.gov.hk
Indonesia <i>Note: consider online registration</i>	WAFSWIIH01	Zulkarnain	Cillo_85@yahoo.com
Japan <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSRJTD02 WAFSSRJD99	Osamu Hamada	o-hamada@met.kishou.go.jp
Korea (ROK) <i>Note: confirmed email</i>	WAFSRKSS01	Ryu JongSeon	ooho0@korea.kr
New Zealand <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSNZWN02 WAFSNZPP01	Kevin Alder	kevin.alder@metSERVICE.com
Papua New Guinea <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSAYPY02 WAFSAYPY01	Jimmy Gomoga	jgomoga@pngmet.gov.pg
Philippines <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSRPMP01	<i>Note: Email to Rolymer Canillo/ Lazaro M. Marqueses</i>	lalloymmarqueses@yahoo.com rpanillo@yahoo.com
Thailand <i>Note:email informed 14/2/2011</i>	WAFSVTBS01	Somchai Yimsricharoenkit	somchai_yim@tmd.go.th
Vanuatu <i>Note:email informed 16/2/2011</i>	WAFSNVSS01	<i>Note: Email to Jotham Napat</i>	jnapat@meteo.gov.vu

2.6 The following States are not currently registered ISCS-G2 users but are encouraged to take advantage of WIFS service. The ICAO and FAA have contacted these States through email in February 2011.

- Kiribati
- Nauru
- Samoa
- Solomon Islands
- Vietnam

2.7 WIFS Coordination Point of Contact in USA

For all ISCS-G2 transition to WIFS environment, please direct all your correspondence to:
Steven Albersheim
Federal Aviation Administration
Mail Stop: AJB-68
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591
Phone: 1-202-385-7185
Email: steven.albersheim@faa.gov

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The meeting is invited to review the WIFS Implementation Status report and take appropriate actions to ensure WIFS transition readiness no later than 31 March 2012.

4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The group is invited to consider the proposed recommendation for adoption
