



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE
AND METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP OF
APANPIRG (CNS/MET SG/14)**



Jakarta, Indonesia, 19 – 22 July 2010

Agenda Item 14: Regional MET support to ATM

- 2) Exchange of information on MET support for operations at aerodromes, terminal areas and en-route

INTRODUCTION OF SIGNIFICANT WEATHER BRIEFING SHEET FOR ATMC

(Presented by Japan)

SUMMARY

This paper introduces the “SIGWX Briefing Sheet” issued by Air Traffic Meteorology Center (ATMetC) for the Air Traffic Management Center (ATMC), when significant weather is forecasted at some major aerodromes in Japan.

This paper relates to

Strategic Objectives:

A: Safety — Enhance global civil aviation safety

D: Efficiency — Enhance the efficiency of aviation operations

Global Plan Initiatives:

GPI-18 Aeronautical Information

GPI-19 Meteorological System

1. Introduction

1.1 The Air Traffic Meteorology Center (ATMetC) of Japan Meteorological Agency supports the Air Traffic Management Center (ATMC) of the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau. These two centers cooperate closely in the development of operation (see MET/ATM TF/1-WP/11).

1.2 The ATMetC makes and provides their original forecast products, i.e. “Air Traffic Meteorological category forecast” and “ATMet Summary”, which are customized specifically for assisting ATM controllers’ decision making (see CNS/MET SG/13-IP/31). They are provided every one or three hours and their period of validity is up to six hours later.

1.3 In the case of significant weather occurred at some major aerodromes, the ATMC often needs more detailed weather information which has longer period of validity. Therefore, ATMetC has provided the ATMC officers with regular and extra briefing with the newly introduced material, “SIGWX Briefing

Sheet”, since August 2009 on trial.

2. SIGWX Briefing Sheet

2.1 SIGWX Briefing Sheet targets strong wind at the Tokyo International Airport and heavy snow at the New Chitose Airport (Table1), according to studies on air traffic delays caused by weather conditions.

Table1 The target airports and significant weather of SIGWX Briefing Sheet

airport	Significant Weather
Tokyo International Airport	Strong wind
New Chitose airport	Heavy snow

- 2.2 The ATMetC operates the SIGWX Briefing Sheet as follows;
- The ATMetC provides a SIGWX Briefing Sheet on the ATMet Information Sharing system (see MET/ATM TF/1-WP/12), when significant weather is forecasted within 12 to 15 hours.
 - The ATMetC makes amendments to the product and briefings within 12 hours available.
 - At the end of the significant weather, the ATMetC stops providing the Sheet.

2.3 An example of SIGWX Briefing Sheet is shown in Figure1;

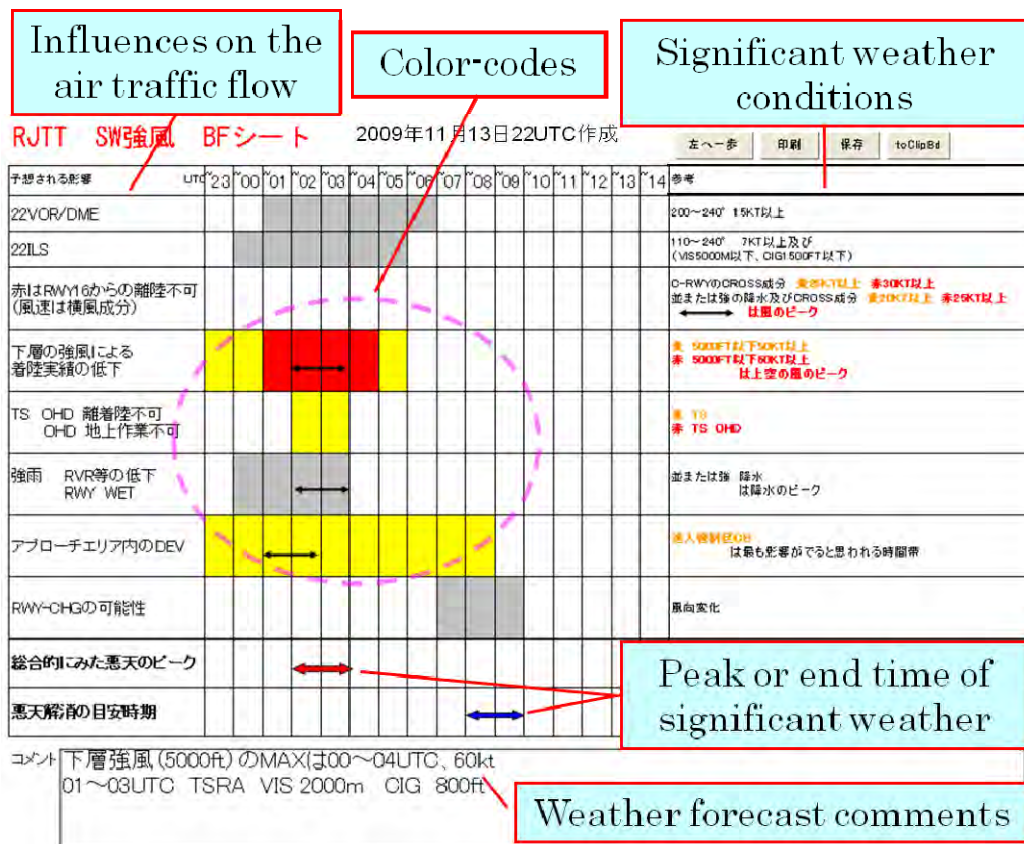


Figure1 SIGWX Briefing Sheet

- The period of validity is up to 16 hours later.
- At the left end: expected influences on the air traffic flow, e.g. lower landing capacity and flight deviation;

- At the right end: detail explanation of significant weather conditions which cause the expected influences on the air traffic flow, e.g. strong wind and cumulonimbus;
- At the center: Color-coded forecast categorized by the four-rank probability of occurrence of impacts on air traffic flow at the aerodrome, in the same way as Air Traffic Meteorological category forecast (see MET/ATM TF/1-WP12), and arrows to indicates peak or ending time of the significant weather;
- At the bottom: Comments on weather forecast at aerodromes.

2.4 Until now, the ATMetC has issued the SIGWX Briefing Sheet for 13 cases at Tokyo International Airport and 10 cases at New Chitose Airport.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information presented in this paper.
