



International Civil Aviation Organization
CAR/SAM Regional Planning and Implementation Group (GREPECAS)
**Eleventh Meeting of the GREPECAS Aeronautical Meteorology Subgroup
(AERMETSG/11)**
Lima, Peru, 28 to 30 November 2011

**Agenda Item 2: Review of the status of implementation of the World Area Forecast System
(WAFS) in the CAR/SAM Regions**

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (NWS) GTS INTERNET FILE SERVICE

(Presented by United States)

SUMMARY

An introduction to a new service that will allow regions to still obtain information that will be lost when ISCS ends service in 2012.

1. Introduction

1.1 The current ISCS broadcast will end on 30 June 2012. All ISCS/WAFS users are encouraged to register for access to the existing WAFS Internet File Service (WIFS). Information on how to register for access to WIFS can be found at: <http://www.aviationweather.gov/wifs/registration/index>.

1.2 The ISCS Program Office, in support of the international community of RA-IV Member States and other associated users, is initiating a new service for transmitting meteorological data to the Regional Tele-Communications Hub (RTH) Washington. The new service will employ SSL VPN technology to allow computers at RA-IV National and Regional Centers to securely transmit files to the RTH using traditional File Transfer Protocol (FTP). Transition to the new service will commence in January 2012, and has a planned completion date of 31 March 2012. All existing NOAA net service used for ISCS FTP will be terminated upon the successful transition of the Member States to the SSL VPN Service. Member States may continue to use the RTH-Washington eMail Data Input System (EDIS) as a backup service.

2. Discussion

2.1 All users of the Global Telecommunications System (GTS) Regional Meteorological Telecommunications Network (RMTN) in World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Regional Association IV (RA-IV) should be aware NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) is working to identify and implement alternative communication methods to replace the RA-IV RMTN portion of the ISCS broadcast.

2.2 The primary method for product availability will be through an Internet based, or NWS Internet File Service. For further information go to the following link: [NWS GTS Internet File Service \(GIFS\)](#):

2.3 **Backup for NWS GIFS:**

- NWS is investigating the use of the existing GEONET Cast-Americas (GNC-A) satellite broadcast service.
- GNC-A will operate as an alternate method to GIFS for RA-IV RMTN user to obtain GTS data products.
- If implemented, end users interested in receiving the GNC-A broadcast will need to purchase the receiver equipment and software for their site. A list of possible vendors for satellite equipment and installation will be provided in the future.
- The outcome of the NWS GNC-A investigation and the future implementation of this service is uncertain. Updates will be posted to this web page.
- <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/iscs/countdown.php>

3. **Recommendation**

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

APPENDIX

Below are recently acquired AFTN/ICAO compliant collectives for TAFs, METARs and SPECIs, 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/PacificFTUS75, SAUS75 and SPUS75

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