

NOUS41 KWBC 311800 AAB  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-02 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
200 PM EDT Fri Jul 31 2020

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Captain James Crocker  
              Acting Director, Surface and Upper Air Division  
              Office of Observations

Subject: Updated: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations to  
Automated Radiosonde Observations at Del Rio, TX, on or about January 24,  
2020

Updated to report the properly formatted Vaisala Autosonde Freezing Level  
data (RADAT) and National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)  
Archive products were implemented June 19, 2020.

Updated to correct the status of RADAT, NCEI Archive, and High Resolution  
Binary Universal Form for the Representation of meteorological data (BUFR)  
products. These three products were operationally implemented with the  
deployment of the Del Rio autosonde.

Effective on or about January 24, 2020, radiosonde observations (RAOB)  
from Del Rio, TX, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) # 72261, Station  
ID KDRT, will be transitioned from the manually launched Lockheed Martin  
1680 MHz LMS6 radiosonde to the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde using  
the Vaisala Autosonde as the launch vehicle.

During the transition period of up to 30 days, dual radiosonde flights may  
be performed until the Vaisala Autosonde System is declared operational  
for the regularly scheduled observations of 0000 Coordinated Universal  
Time (UTC) and 1200 UTC.

The RADAT and NCEI archive messages are imperfect due to improper  
formatting. NWS will issue a Service Change Notice (SCN) when the  
software update is implemented and the Autosonde RAOB products contain  
these components.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO 306 manual  
on Codes (International Codes):

- Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes
- Volume I.2 Part B - Binary Codes
- Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices (WMO Region IV)

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

Hiram Escabi, Jr., NCE, CET  
Upper Air Program Manager  
NWS Program Management Branch  
Silver Spring, MD  
301-427-9195  
[hiram.escabi@noaa.gov](mailto:hiram.escabi@noaa.gov)

National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

NNNN