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Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers
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 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
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From: Joseph Facundo
 Chief, NWS Observing Systems Branch

Subject: Operational Test and Evaluation (OTE) for Automated Surface
Observing System (ASOS) Software Version 3.08 (v3.08) to Start on or about
December 3, 2012

Note: The following changes have no direct impact on NOAA Weather Wire
Service subscribers.

The NWS Field Systems Support Center (FSOC) will begin an OTE on ASOS
software v3.08 on or about December 3, 2012. The new v3.08 software load
provides some 58 new functionalities to ASOS and includes 24 operational
fixes to the current operational baseline v2.79Y. The new capabilities
will do the following:

- Help ASOS meet the encoding requirements for Meteorological Terminal Air
Report (METAR)/Special Reports (SPECI) reports as outlined in the Federal
Meteorological Handbook No. 1 (FMH 1).
- Add the reporting of ice accretion amounts.
- Add the Ice Free Wind (IFW) sensor quality control algorithm.
- Provide support for the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's)
Weather Sensor Processor (WSP) program.
- Add an Ice Accretion Remark on the 1-minute page and in the METAR and
SPECI observations. The amount of ice accreting on a flat surface (planar
icing), as estimated by the data from the freezing rain sensor, will be
included in the remarks section of the METAR/SPECI reports. The remark
will have the format of "Ihnnn", where "h" is the hourly time period,
i.e., 1-, 3- or 6-hours. The value "nnn" is the ice thickness accumulated
to the nearest 0.01 inch. A toggle for the ice accretion remark to be
included in the METAR/SPECI reports is on the PHYSICALS page (REVUE SITE
PHYS).

The OTE will run for approximately four months, from about December 3,
2012, through April 2013 at 31 OTE sites, with observer augmentation: 27
FAA/NWS service level A, B, C sites; 4 Navy sites. Detailed information

on v3.08 software is online at:

http://www.weather.gov/ops2/ops24/documents/asos_v3.htm

Installation of ASOS v3.08 software will occur at the following seven FAA/NWS (FAA Contract Tower) sites beginning on or about December 3, 2012:

GKN Gulkana, AK
TOP Topeka, KS
COU Columbia, MO
ORH Worcester, MA
LIH Lihue, HI
PDT Pendleton, OR
SPG St. Petersburg, FL

Installation of ASOS v3.08 software will occur at 20 FAA/NWS (FAA Towered) sites beginning on or about December 3, 2012:

HIO Portland, OR
JNU Juneau, AK
FAI Fairbanks, AK
SIT Sitka, AK
DSM Des Moines, IA
GRB Green Bay, WI
PIA Peoria, IL
SGF Springfield, MO
BIS Bismarck, ND
ACY Atlantic City, NJ
CLE Cleveland, OH
PWM Portland, ME
ITO Hilo, HI
TRI Bristol, TN
DFW Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX
TUL Tulsa, OK
SLC Salt Lake City, UT
TUS Tucson, AZ
OLM Olympia, WA
BIL Billings, MT

Installation of ASOS v3.08 will occur at four U.S. Navy sites beginning on or about December 3, 2012:

KNGU Norfolk Naval Air Station (NAS), VA
KNKT Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), NC
KNBC Beaufort MCAS, SC
KNIP Jacksonville NAS, FL

For more information, please contact:

Joseph Facundo
NWS Observing Systems Branch
Silver Spring, MD
joseph.facundo@noaa.gov
301-713-2093, ext. 101

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

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