

NOUS41 KWBC 051940
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-02
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
240 PM EST FRI JAN 5 2001

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: JAMES E. LEE
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION AND TESTING OF THE VALID TIME EVENT CODE AT THE
SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA FORECAST OFFICE...EFFECTIVE MARCH 15 2001

EFFECTIVE THURSDAY MARCH 15 2001 AT 7 A.M. CENTRAL STANDARD TIME
/CST/...1300 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...THE WEATHER FORECAST
OFFICE IN SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA WILL BEGIN INCLUDING THE VALID TIME EVENT
CODE /VTEC/ IN SEVERE THUNDERSTORM /SVR/ AND TORNADO /TOR/ WARNINGS /SEE
TABLE 1/.

TABLE 1: MESSAGES FROM THE SHREVEPORT LA OFFICE WHICH WILL CONTAIN VTEC

MESSAGE TYPE	AWIPS ID	WMO ID
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING /SVR/	SVRSHV	WUUS54 KSHV
TORNADO WARNING /TOR/	TORSHV	WFUS54 KSHV

/END OF TABLE 1/

THIS TEST WILL BE CONTINUOUSLY EVALUATED...WITHOUT A PLANNED ENDING DATE.
IF ANY SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS ARISE...THE TEST WILL BE DISCONTINUED AT AN
ANNOUNCED DATE/TIME. THE TEST WILL ALLOW THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TO
ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAMS WHICH CREATE THE VTEC RUN CORRECTLY AND ALSO
ALLOW EXTERNAL CUSTOMERS TO DETERMINE WAYS TO UTILIZE THE VTEC IN THEIR
DISSEMINATION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS.

THE VTEC SPECIFIES THE CONTENT OF EACH MESSAGE SO THAT CUSTOMERS CAN USE
AUTOMATED PROGRAMS TO READ...PROCESS AND REDISTRIBUTE MESSAGES /OR
PORTIONS OF MESSAGES/ WITHOUT HUMAN INTERVENTION. A VTEC STRING WILL BE
LOCATED DIRECTLY BELOW THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE /UGC/ LINE/S/ IN EACH
SVR...AND TOR PRODUCT FROM THE SHREVEPORT LA OFFICE...WITH THE EXCEPTION
OF MESSAGES ISSUED ON BEHALF OF SHREVEPORT BY SURROUNDING OFFICES ACTING
IN A BACKUP CAPACITY.

SEE TABLE 2 FOR A KEY OF THE VTEC ELEMENTS. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE CODE
AND ALL ELEMENTS...SEVERAL PRODUCT EXAMPLES AND IMPLEMENTATION
PLANS...PLEASE SEE THE INTERNET SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:
[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/VTEC/VTEC.PDF](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/vtec/vtec.pdf)

ALL CUSTOMERS SHOULD TEST THEIR DISSEMINATION SYSTEM/S/ TO ENSURE THE TEST
VTEC LINE/S/ DOES NOT ADVERSELY IMPACT THE SYSTEM/S/ BY MARCH 15 2001.

VTEC FORMAT:

HERE IS THE GENERIC FORMAT OF ONE VTEC STRING TO DESCRIBE A SINGLE EVENT. EACH WATCH...WARNING OR ADVISORY IS ACCOMPANIED BY A VTEC STRING...SO TWO WARNINGS IN ONE SEGMENT WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO VTEC STRINGS.

/AAA.CCCC.PP.S.####.DBHHMM-DEHHMM/

AAA.CCCC.PP.S.#### DESCRIBES EACH WEATHER EVENT AND DBHHMM-DEHHMM DESCRIBES THE VALID BEGINNING AND ENDING TIME OF THE EVENT.

TABLE 2. KEY TO VTEC ELEMENTS

AAA - ACTION CODE /I.E. NEW FOR NEW ISSUANCE/
CCCC - OFFICE ID /I.E. KSHV FOR THE SHREVEPORT LA OFFICE/
PP - PHENOMENA CODE /I.E. SV FOR SEVERE THUNDERSTORM/
S - SIGNIFICANCE CODE /I.E. W FOR WARNING/
- EVENT TRACKING NUMBER /I.E. 0005 FOR THE FIFTH ISSUANCE OF A SPECIFIC WATCH...WARNING OR ADVISORY/
DBHHMM - EVENT BEGINNING DATE/TIME GROUP IN UTC DEHHMM - EVENT ENDING DATE/TIME GROUP IN UTC

VTEC DELIMITERS:

/ - BEGINS AND ENDS EACH VTEC STRING
. - SEPARATES VTEC ELEMENTS

EXAMPLE SHOWING THE UGC AND VTEC FOR ONE SVR EVENT:

WUUS54 KSHV 050400 SVRSHV
LAC059-050445-
/NEW.KSHV.SV.W.0001.050400-050445/

BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SHREVEPORT LA
1000 PM CST FRI FEB 4 2000

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN SHREVEPORT HAS ISSUED A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING FOR...LA SALLE PARISH IN LOUISIANA

REST OF MESSAGE...

INTERPRETATION: THE SHREVEPORT LA OFFICE /KSHV/ ISSUED A NEW /NEW IN THE CODE/ SEVERE THUNDERSTORM /SV/ WARNING /W/...EFFECTIVE AT 0400 UTC ON THE FIFTH. IT WAS THE FIRST SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING /0001/ FROM THIS OFFICE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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