

NOUS41 KWBC 202000
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-15
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
300 PM EST TUE MAR 20 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
ABERDEEN SD FORECAST OFFICE...EFFECTIVE MAY 22 2001

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY MAY 22 2001 AT 7 A.M. CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME /CDT/...1300
COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...THE WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE IN ABERDEEN
SOUTH DAKOTA WILL BEGIN INCLUDING THE VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ IN
WINTER WEATHER /WSW/ AND NON-PRECIPIATION WEATHER /NPW/ MESSAGES...AS
WELL AS SEVERE THUNDERSTORM /SVR/ AND TORNADO /TOR/ WARNINGS /SEE TABLE
1/.

TABLE 1: MESSAGES FROM THE ABERDEEN SD OFFICE WHICH WILL CONTAIN THE VTEC
CODE.../W/W/A STANDS FOR WATCHES...WARNINGS...OR ADVISORIES/

MESSAGE TYPE	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
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NON-PRECIPIATION W/W/A	WWUS73 KABR	NPWABR
WINTER WEATHER W/W/A	WWUS43 KABR	WSWABR
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING	WUUS53 KABR	SVRABR
TORNADO WARNING	WFUS53 KABR	TORABR

/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. 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
WSW...NPW...SVR...AND TOR PRODUCT FROM THE ABERDEEN SD OFFICE...WITH THE
EXCEPTION OF MESSAGES ISSUED ON BEHALF OF ABERDEEN 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 SYSTEMS/ BY MAY 22 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 /E.G. NEW FOR NEW ISSUANCE/
CCCC - OFFICE ID /I.E. KABR FOR THE ABERDEEN SD OFFICE/
PP - PHENOMENA CODE /E.G. BZ FOR BLIZZARD/
S - SIGNIFICANCE CODE /E.G. 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 WSW EVENT:

WWUS43 KABR 050400

WSWABR

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ABERDEEN SD
1100 PM EST FRI FEB 4 2000

...DISCUSSION...

SDZ007-011-019-020-022-050400-
/CAN.KABR.BZ.W.0001.000000-050400/
CLARK-CODINGTON-DAY-HAMLIN-MARSHALL-
INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...WEBSTER...WATERTOWN...BRITTON...CLARK...HAYTI

...REST OF MESSAGE...

INTERPRETATION: THE ABERDEEN SD OFFICE /KABR/ISSUED A WSW CANCELING /CAN IN THE CODE/ A BLIZZARD /BZ/ WARNING /W/...EFFECTIVE AT 0400 UTC ON THE

FIFTH. IT WAS THE FIRST BLIZZARD WARNING /0001/ FROM THIS OFFICE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR. SINCE THE BLIZZARD WARNING WAS VALID BEFORE THIS MESSAGE WAS ISSUED...THE BEGINNING DATE/TIME IS LISTED AS 000000.

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

WILLIAM TALLMAN	GEORGE MARSHALL
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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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