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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 11-44  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
657 AM EST Fri Dec 23 2011

To: Regional Meteorological Telecommunications Network (RMTN)  
Users of the International Satellite Communications System (ISCS)  
in WMO Regions III and IV

From: Craig Hodan  
Chief, NWS Dissemination Systems Branch

Subject: ISCS Broadcast Ending and Being Replaced by the GTS Internet File  
Service (GIFS): Effective June 30, 2011

The ISCS Broadcast will end June 30, 2012, when the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ISCS contract expires. NWS is replacing the ISCS satellite broadcast service, which provides meteorological and aviation weather products to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Regional Association IV (RA-IV) members and participating states, with the Global Telecommunication System (GTS) Internet File Service (GIFS).

GIFS will make the ISCS broadcast products available for download via https over the Internet as a data pull service. GIFS will allow the current set of WMO RA-IV ISCS users and other select Member States to access products through the NWS issuance of authorized service usernames and passwords. The new system will be available for preliminary use and assessment by April 1, 2012. All RA-IV ISCS users will need to transition from ISCS to GIFS by June 30, 2012.

Coordinating information and status updates on the GIFS implementation and transition is provided on the NWS ISCS Webpage:

<http://www.weather.gov/iscs/countdown.php>

This website will be updated to keep you informed on the schedule, progress and status of this transition.

If you have questions or comments, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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