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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 18-34
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1220 PM EDT Mon Apr 2 2018

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

From: David Novak
 Director, Weather Prediction Center

Subject: Use of Mixed-Case Text/95 ASCII Character Set in Selected WPC
Forecast Discussion Products: Effective May 2, 2018

Effective Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) will continue its transition of text products to a mixed-case text/95 American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) character set format. This phase of the transition will apply to following select products issued by WPC:

AWIPS ID	WMO ID	Product Name
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QPFHSD	FOUS11 KWBC	Winter Weather Discussion
PMDEPD	FXUS02 KWBC	Extended Forecast Discussion

This expansion in the number of available mixed-case text products is a continuation of the NWS transition to the use of mixed-case letters. Use of mixed-case letters in text products will make them easier to read and allow users to click on links directly rather than converting them to lower- or mixed-case. Partners and users of WPC text products should modify their systems to accommodate mixed-case and the expanded character set.

Examples of WPC products already converted to mixed-case are online for sample formatting purposes:

<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/discussions/hpcdiscussions.php?disc=pmdspd>
<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/discussions/hpcdiscussions.php?disc=pmdhi>

WPC will notify users/partners of future text product transitions to mixed-case/95 ASCII character set format via Service Change Notices with 30 days' lead time. These notices will include Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) product identifiers and actual effective dates.

If a Critical Weather Day (CWD) prevents this change on May 2, 2018, the mixed-case text format change will take effect on the next non-CWD day.

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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