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Service Change Notice 18-75 National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD 330 PM EDT Mon Aug 6 2018

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From: Mark B. Miller

Director, Surface and Upper Air Division

Office of Observations

Subject: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations to Automated Radiosonde Observations at Bethel, Alaska: Effective on or about September 15, 2018

Effective on or about September 15, 2018, NWS will transition radiosonde observations (RAOB) from Bethel, AK, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) # 70219, Station ID PABE, from the manually launched Lockheed Martin 1680 MHz LMS6 radiosonde to the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde using the Vaisala Autosonde as the launch vehicle.

Dual radiosonde flights may be performed for up to 30 days until the Vaisala Autosonde System is declared operational for the regularly scheduled observations of 00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) and 12 UTC.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO 306 Manual on Codes (International Codes):

-Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes

-Volume I.2 Part B - Binary Codes

-Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices (WMO Region IV)

NWS will issue an update to this notice if additional information needs to be communicated on this transition.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

Hiram Escabi, Jr., NCE, CET
Upper Air Program Manager
NWS Program Management Branch
Silver Spring, MD
301-427-9195
hiram.escabi@noaa.gov

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