

NOUS41 KWBC 162130  
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 04-12  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
430 PM EST TUE MAR 16 2004

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES  
CUSTOMERS OF NWS AVIATION...CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA AND FORECASTS

FROM: RAINER DOMBROWSKY  
CHIEF...OBSERVING SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: AUTOMATED SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEM /ASOS/ PRECIPITATION  
ACCUMULATION SENSOR REPLACEMENT: BEGINNING APRIL 2004

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING CHANGES HAVE NO DIRECT IMPACT ON NOAA WEATHER WIRE  
SERVICE SUBSCRIBERS.

THE ASOS PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WILL SOON BEGIN REPORTING DATA FROM A  
NEW PRECIPITATION GAUGE...THE ALL WEATHER PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION GAUGE  
/AWPAG/.

THE PRESENT GAUGE...A HEATED TIPPING BUCKET /HTB/ GAUGE...IS PRONE TO  
UNDER-REPORTING FROZEN AND FREEZING PRECIPITATION. THE AWPAG IS A HEATED  
WEIGHING GAUGE AND IS MORE ACCURATE IN MEASURING AND REPORTING FREEZING  
AND FROZEN PRECIPITATION.

THE AWPAG HAS FIELD TESTED THROUGHOUT THE PAST WINTER. BEGINNING IN APRIL  
2004...THE NWS WILL BEGIN TO INSTALL THE AWPAG AT 332 LOCATIONS.  
INSTALLATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY OCTOBER OF 2004. NWS  
OFFICES WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL NOTICES THROUGH LOCAL PUBLIC INFORMATION  
STATEMENTS AS EACH LOCATION BECOME OPERATIONAL.

MORE DETAILED IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION...INCLUDING AWPAG LOCATIONS...IS  
AVAILABLE ON THE SURFACE OBSERVATION PROGRAM WEBPAGE AT /USE LOWER CASE  
EXCEPT S IN SURFACE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OPS2/SURFACE/IMPLEMENTATION.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ops2/surface/implementation.htm)

THEN CLICK ON AWPAG IMPLEMENTATION SITES.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS CHANGE...PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AT NWS HEADQUARTERS IN SILVER SPRING MARYLAND:

STEVEN PRITCHETT  
SURFACE OBSERVATIONS PROGRAM MANAGER  
PHONE: 301-713-1792 X 181  
EMAIL: [STEVEN.PRITCHETT@NOAA.GOV](mailto:STEVEN.PRITCHETT@NOAA.GOV)

OR

DAVID MANNARANO  
SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTATION MANAGER  
PHONE: 301-713-2093 X 103  
EMAIL: [DAVID.MANNARANO@NOAA.GOV](mailto:DAVID.MANNARANO@NOAA.GOV)

OR

RICHARD AHLBERG  
ASOS PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM MANAGER  
PHONE: 301-713-1975 X 160  
EMAIL: [RICHARD.AHLBERG@NOAA.GOV](mailto:RICHARD.AHLBERG@NOAA.GOV)

NATIONAL TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

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