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PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 08-09  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
925 AM EST FRI FEB 8 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:  
-FAMILY OF SERVICES  
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE  
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK  
-NOAAPORT  
OTHER NWS USERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: FIONA M. HORSFALL  
ACTING CHIEF...CLIMATE SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: NOAA UPDATES ITS LONG-TERM STATION EXTREMES OF DAILY  
TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR DATA THROUGH 2007: EFFECTIVE DECEMBER  
31 2007

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31 2007...LONG-TERM STATION EXTREMES OF DAILY  
TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR APROXIMATELY 268 KEY U.S. WEATHER  
STATIONS WERE UPDATED FOR DATA THROUGH 2007. TO PROVIDE THE LONGEST  
POSSIBLE PERIOD OF RECORD AT EACH STATION TO DETERMINE EXTREMES...A  
PROJECT CALLED THREADEX /FOR THREADED EXTREMES/ PIECES OR THREADS  
STATION DATA TOGETHER TO FORM A SINGLE...LONG-TERM SET OF DAILY DATA.  
THE THREADEX PROJECT IS OUTLINED AT: /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://THREADEX.RCC-ACIS.ORG/](http://threalex.rcc-acis.org/)

NOAA HAS BUILT THREADS FOR THE APROXIMATELY 268 LOCATIONS THAT ARE  
PUBLISHED IN THE NCDC LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA /LCD/. THE EXTREMES  
DERIVED FROM THE THREADS ARE USED IN THE NWS DAILY CLIMATE REPORTS  
/CLI/.

THREADEX ADDRESSES THE ISSUE OF FRAGMENTED WEATHER DATA OVER TIME DUE TO  
STATION RELOCATIONS...WHICH HAVE HISTORICALLY INCLUDED INSTRUMENTATION  
MOVES FROM CITY LOCATIONS TO AIRPORTS...AND MOVES AT AIRPORTS DUE TO  
EXPANSIONS. OBTAINING A LONG TIME SERIES /I.E...100 YEARS OR MORE/ IS  
DIFFICULT UNLESS RECORDS FROM THE VARIOUS LOCATIONS ARE THREADED  
TOGETHER.

THREADING A STATION RECORD INVOLVES A NUMBER OF STEPS. THE RECORD OF A  
CURRENTLY ACTIVE STATION IS USED AS THE STARTING POINT FOR A STATION  
THREAD. THIS STATION/S CURRENT RECORD IS USED AS FAR BACK IN TIME AS  
POSSIBLE. OTHER LOCAL WEATHER STATIONS NEARBY ARE THEN IDENTIFIED TO  
EXTEND THE THREAD FURTHER BACK IN TIME...WITH PREFERENCE GIVEN TO  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE/WEATHER BUREAU STATIONS. THE THREAD IS  
EXTENDED BACK IN TIME AS FAR AS POSSIBLE USING NOAA DAILY DATA AVAILABLE  
IN DIGITAL FORM. INPUT FROM PARTNERS AND NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES  
WAS THEN SOLICITED AND THIS LOCAL EXPERTISE WAS USED TO FINE-TUNE THE  
STATION THREADS.

THREADEX IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN NWS...NOAA/S NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER...THE NORTHEAST REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER AND STATE CLIMATOLOGISTS.

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE THREADEX PROJECT...CONTACT:

MICHAEL J. BREWER  
NWS  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND  
PHONE: 301-713-1970 EXT. 123

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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