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TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 08-56
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
205 PM EDT TUE JUL 15 2008

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FROM: JASON TUELL
CHIEF...SCIENCE PLANS BRANCH
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBJECT: ADDITION OF EXPERIMENTAL NCEP RTMA GRIDS FOR HAWAII AND PUERTO RICO AREAS: EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 23 2008

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 23 2008...AT APPROXIMATELY 1500 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...THE NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION /NCEP/ WILL BEGIN DISSEMINATING REAL TIME MESOSCALE ANALYSIS /RTMA/ PRODUCTS FOR THE HAWAII AND PUERTO RICO AREAS. THESE EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCTS WILL BE PROVIDED VIA NOAAPORT AND THE NATIONAL DIGITAL GUIDANCE DATABASE /NDGD/.

RTMA CONSISTS OF A SET OF GRIDDED SURFACE ANALYSES CORRESPONDING TO THE PARAMETERS LISTED BELOW IN TABLES 1 AND 2. SIMILAR TO THE CONTIGUOUS U.S. /CONUS/ AND ALASKA RTMA PRODUCTS ALREADY PROVIDED VIA NOAAPORT AND NDGD...THESE NEW HAWAII AND PUERTO RICO AREA GRIDS ARE ALSO INTENDED FOR DISTRIBUTION IN NEAR REAL TIME. THUS...IN THE GENERATION OF THESE GRIDS...NCEP EXPLOITS AS MUCH SATELLITE...AUTOMATED SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEM /ASOS/...MESONET AND OTHER SENSOR DATA AS CAN BE ACQUIRED IN NEAR REAL TIME. THE SENSOR DATA ARE ANALYZED AND INTERPOLATED TO REGIONAL GRIDS AND FORMATTED IN GRIDDED BINARY VERSION TWO /GRIB2/. BOTH THE HAWAII AND PUERTO RICO RTMA PRODUCTS WILL BE PROVIDED ON 2.5 KM HORIZONTAL RESOLUTION GRIDS.

NCEP WILL GENERATE THE HAWAII AND PUERTO RICO RTMA GRIDS EACH HOUR. EACH HOURLY GRID SET WILL HAVE A VALID TIME CORRESPONDING TO AN EVEN HOUR /I.E...0000...0100...0200...THROUGH 2300/. THE RTMA GRIDS WILL BE DISSEMINATED VIA NOAAPORT AND AVAILABLE ON NDGD AT APPROXIMATELY 45 MINUTES AFTER THE VALID HOUR.

THE HOURLY DATA VOLUME WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 1.3 MEGABYTES /MB/ AND THE DAILY VOLUME WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 31.2 MB.

ALL OF THE GRIDS LISTED IN TABLES 1 AND 2 WILL BE CARRIED ON NOAAPORT. ALL OF THE SAME GRIDS...EXCEPT FOR U AND V WINDS...WILL BE AVAILABLE IN NDGD.

TABLE 1: WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADINGS ASSIGNED TO THE HAWAII AREA RTMA GRIDS

WMO HEADING	RTMA PARAMETER
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LTHA98 KWBR	TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS
LTHA98 KWBR	TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LRHA98 KWBR	DEWPOINT TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS
LRHA98 KWBR	DEWPOINT TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LNHA98 KWBR	WIND SPEED ANALYSIS
LNHA98 KWBR	WIND SPEED ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LNHA98 KWBR	WIND DIRECTION ANALYSIS
LNHA98 KWBR	WIND DIRECTION ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LUHA98 KWBR	U WIND COMPONENT ANALYSIS /NOAAPORT ONLY/
LVHA98 KWBR	V WIND COMPONENT ANALYSIS /NOAAPORT ONLY/

TABLE 2: WMO HEADINGS ASSIGNED TO THE PUERTO RICO AREA RTMA GRIDS

WMO HEADING	RTMA PARAMETER
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LTCA98 KWBR	TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS
LTCA98 KWBR	TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LRCA98 KWBR	DEWPOINT TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS
LRCA98 KWBR	DEWPOINT TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LNCA98 KWBR	WIND SPEED ANALYSIS
LNCA98 KWBR	WIND SPEED ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LNCA98 KWBR	WIND DIRECTION ANALYSIS
LNCA98 KWBR	WIND DIRECTION ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
LUCA98 KWBR	U WIND COMPONENT ANALYSIS /NOAAPORT ONLY/
LVCA98 KWBR	V WIND COMPONENT ANALYSIS /NOAAPORT ONLY/

WITHIN NDGD...THE HAWAII GRIDS WILL BE PLACED IN SUBDIRECTORIES OF /USE LOWER CASE EXCEPT FOR SL...ST...DF...DC...GT AND AR/:

<FTP://TGFTP.NWS.NOAA.GOV/SL.US008001/ST.EXPR/DF.GR2/DC.NDGD/GT.RTMA/AR.HAWAII>

THE PUERTO RICO GRIDS WILL BE PLACED IN SUBDIRECTORIES OF /USE LOWER CASE EXCEPT FOR SL...ST...DF...DC...GT AND AR/:

<FTP://TGFTP.NWS.NOAA.GOV/SL.US008001/ST.EXPR/DF.GR2/DC.NDGD/GT.RTMA/AR.PUERTORI>

BENEATH THE AR.HAWAII AND AR.PUERTORI DIRECTORIES ARE 24 SUBDIRECTORIES...ONE FOR EACH HOUR OF THE DAY: RT.00...RT.01...RT.02...THROUGH RT.23. EACH HOURLY SUBDIRECTORY WILL STORE THE RTMA FILES FOR THAT NOMINAL HOUR. THE RTMA FILES IN EACH HOURLY SUBDIRECTORY WILL BE NAMED AS SHOWN IN TABLE 3 /USE LOWER CASE/:

TABLE 3: NDGD FILENAMES FOR HAWAII AND PUERTO RICO AREA RTMA GRIDS

FILE NAME	RTMA PARAMETER
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DS.TEMP.BIN	TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS
DS.UTEMP.BIN	TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
DS.TD.BIN	DEWPOINT TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS
DS.UTD.BIN	DEWPOINT TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
DS.WSPD.BIN	WIND SPEED ANALYSIS
DS.UWSPD.BIN	WIND SPEED ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY
DS.WDIR.BIN	WIND DIRECTION ANALYSIS
DS.UWDIR.BIN	WIND DIRECTION ANALYSIS UNCERTAINTY

THE RESIDENCE TIME OF NDGD RTMA FILES WILL BE APPROXIMATELY ONE DAY. EACH HOUR NEW FILES WILL BE WRITTEN TO THE MOST RECENT HOURLY DIRECTORY...OVERWRITING THE FILES CORRESPONDING TO THE SAME HOUR ON THE PREVIOUS DAY.

NCEP HAS ESTABLISHED THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES FOR PREVIEWING UP-TO-DATE HAWAII AND PUERTO RICO RTMA /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.EMC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/MMB/RTMA/HAWAII/](http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/MMB/RTMA/HAWAII/)
[HTTP://WWW.EMC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/MMB/RTMA/PR/](http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/MMB/RTMA/PR/)

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TECHNICAL CONTENT OR GENERATION OF THESE PRODUCTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

GEOFF DIMEGO
NWS...NCEP ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING CENTER
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND
PHONE: 301-763-8000 EXT. 7221
EMAIL: GEOFF.DIMEGO@NOAA.GOV

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NCEP DATAFLOW ASPECTS OF THESE DATA SETS...PLEASE CONTACT THE NCEP/NCO/PMB DATAFLOW HELP DESK EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW.

EMAIL: NCEP.PMB.DATAFLOW@NOAA.GOV

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NOAAPORT ACTIVATION OR DATAFLOW OF THESE PRODUCTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

BRIAN GOCKEL
NWS...OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND
PHONE: 301-713-0304 EXT. 158
EMAIL: BRIAN.GOCKEL@NOAA.GOV

NCEP WILL CONTINUE TO REFINE THE RTMA PRODUCTS. USERS CAN PROVIDE FEEDBACK ABOUT THE EXPERIMENTAL HAWAII RTMA AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE EXCEPT FOR RTMA AND HI/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=RTMA-HI](http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=rtma-hi)

A 60-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD WILL BEGIN ON THE DATE OF ACTIVATION AND END ON NOVEMBER 24 2008. USERS CAN PROVIDE FEEDBACK ABOUT THE EXPERIMENTAL PUERTO RICO RTMA AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE EXCEPT FOR RTMA AND PR/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=RTMA-PR](http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=rtma-pr)

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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