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Technical Implementation Notice 16-21 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers:
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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
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From: Paul Iwugo
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 NCEP Central Operations

Subject: Amended: Model Analysis and Guidance Website Imagery Product URL
Path Change on or About August 16, 2016

Amended to change the effective date from August 6, 2016, to August 16,
2016.

In an effort to improve performance of the Model Analysis and Guidance
(MAG) website during periods of high end-user demand, the National Centers
for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will be updating the Uniform Resource
Locator (URL) of certain graphic products.

On or about August 6, 2016, the Global Forecast System (GFS) model
directory for each cycle will be subdivided into multiple directory
levels. This change affects our customers who access graphic products by
using a direct URL address and not those using the MAG website user
interface. Two additional directory levels have been added for area and
parameter name.

Currently, the URL for a GFS image file is:
<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<cycle>/<filename>>

After August 6, 2016, the new GFS URL will be:
<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<cycle>/<area>/<parameter>/<filename>>

where cycle = 00, 06, 12, 18

The area and parameter name fields are the choices made through the MAG
web interface to navigate to and display the image and are also used in
the filename of the product. The GFS filenames follow this pattern:

gfs_<area>_<forecast hour>_<parameter>[<size>].gif
where the optional size = l or s, and indicates a large or small image,
if available.

This URL change also applies to images accessed using the date in the URL
path. Currently, a URL that includes the date directory level for a GFS
image file is:

<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<date>/<cycle>/<filename>>

After August 6, 2016, the new GFS URL will be:

<http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/<date>/<cycle>/<area>/<parameter>/<filename>>

where cycle = 00, 06, 12, 18 and date = yyyyymmdd

For questions regarding these changes, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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