

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DES MOINES IA
1120 AM CDT FRI MAY 12 2006

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

FROM: MARIAN BAKER
SERVICE HYDROLOGIST

SUBJECT: UPCOMING CHANGES IN HYDROLOGIC PRODUCT FORMATS...DELAY OF
IMPLEMENTATION OF VTEC FOR CERTAIN HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS

THE NEW FORMATS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE IMPLEMENTED ON JUNE 28 2006. ANY CHANGE
TO THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN FOLLOW UP SERVICE CHANGE
NOTICES. THE NEW FORMATS WILL BE FOR THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS...

1. FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLW/
2. FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLS/
3. AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLW/
4. FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLS/
5. FLOOD STATEMENT - AREAL ADVISORIES /FLS/
6. FLOOD ADVISORY FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLS/
7. FLOOD WATCH FOR FORECAST POINTS /FFA/

THESE NEW FORMATS INVOLVE SEGMENTATION OF ALL SEVEN PRODUCTS LISTED
ABOVE AND BULLETING OF ALL BUT PRODUCT NUMBER 4.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW HYDROLOGIC PRODUCT FORMATS ARE AS
FOLLOWS...

1. FLOOD WARNINGS FOR FORECAST POINTS ON RIVERS AND STREAMS WILL BE BULLETED
AND USE A ONE FORECAST POINT PER SEGMENT FORMAT...WITH EACH SEGMENT ENDING
WITH A DOUBLE DOLLAR SIGN /\$\$/.
2. EACH SEGMENT IN A FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS WILL HAVE ITS OWN
UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE/S/ /UGC/ LISTED WITH THE ASSOCIATED FORECAST
POINT. THIS MEANS THE SAME UGC COULD OCCUR IN MULTIPLE SEGMENTS IF A
COUNTY HAS MORE THAN ONE FORECAST POINT.
3. AREAL FLOOD WARNINGS AND ADVISORIES WILL USE A BULLETED...SEGMENTED
FORMAT.

THE START DATES FOR VTEC ENCODED HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN
SUBSEQUENT SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES. THIS PHASED IMPLEMENTATION WILL OCCUR OVER
THE NEXT YEAR AND INCLUDE THE HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS LISTED ABOVE...PLUS FLASH
FLOOD WARNINGS /FFW/ AND FLASH FLOOD STATEMENTS /FFS/. EXAMPLES OF
HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS WITH THE NEW FORMATS AND VTEC CAN BE FOUND IN THE LATEST
DRAFT OF NWS MANUAL 10-923...WHICH IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE
LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/VTEC/PDFS/10-923_FUTURE.PDF](http://www.weather.gov/os/vtec/pdfs/10-923_future.pdf)

PROCEDURES ON THE CONTENT...FORMAT...AND APPLICATION OF VTEC IN HYDROLOGIC
PRODUCTS CAN BE FOUND IN NWS INSTRUCTION 10-922...WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT /USE
LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/VTEC/PDFS/10-922_FUTURE.PDF](http://www.weather.gov/os/vtec/pdfs/10-922_future.pdf)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON VTEC CAN BE FOUND AT THE VTEC WEB SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/VTEC](http://www.weather.gov/os/vtec)

THE LATEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON HYDROLOGIC VTEC... INCLUDING NWSLI INFO AND SCHEDULES FOR RISK REDUCTION... OT&E... AND OPERATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE POSTED ON THE FOLLOWING WEB SITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/VTEC/HYDRO_VTEC.SHTML](http://www.weather.gov/os/vtec/hydro_vtec.shtml)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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NWS HYDROLOGIC POLICY PROGRAM LEADER

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OR

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THIS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE IS AVAILABLE ON LINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/

[HTTP://WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/IMAGES/DMX/SCN-HYDROLOGIC-FORMAT.PDF](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/images/dmx/scn-hydrologic-format.pdf)

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM/](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm/)

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