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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 24-92  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring, MD  
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TO:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              Other NWS partners and NWS employees

FROM:         Bruce Entwistle  
              Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

Subject: Retirement of the Airmen's Meteorological Information (AIRMET)  
over CONUS: Effective on or about January 27, 2025

Effective on or about January 27, 2025 at 1900 Universal Coordinated  
Time, the Traditional Alphanumeric Code (TAC) AIRMET over the six regions  
of the Contiguous United States (CONUS) will be retired.

The NWS will continue to provide the Graphical AIRMET (G-AIRMET) over the  
CONUS. The product is currently located at  
<https://aviationweather.gov/gfa/#gairmet>.

The AIRMET is a description of the occurrence or expected occurrence of  
specified en-route aviation weather phenomena at intensities less than  
the issuance of a Significant Meteorological Information (SIGMET) warning  
would require. In 2010, the Aviation Weather Center (AWC) began the  
operational production of the G-AIRMET over the CONUS. G-AIRMETs are  
issued based on the same criteria as TAC AIRMETs. The G-AIRMET is  
disseminated as a message in Binary Universal Form for the Representation  
of meteorological data (BUFR) format and as graphics via the website  
referenced above.

In 2021, the NWS also began transmitting the G-AIRMET in eXtensible  
Markup Language (XML) format. The G-AIRMET format can be used to display  
graphical forecasts of en-route weather hazards and to generate a text  
message tailored to user needs. A Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)  
working group recommended the retirement of the TAC AIRMET and transition  
to the G-AIRMET. The FAA convened a Safety Risk Management Panel (SRMP)  
to evaluate any hazards associated with the retirement of the TAC AIRMET.

Based on the working group recommendation and the SRMP results, the FAA  
has formally requested the NWS retire the TAC AIRMET and produce only the  
G-AIRMET for the CONUS. TAC AIRMETs for Alaska and Hawaii will not be  
affected at this time. The 18 CONUS TAC AIRMETs affected are listed  
below:

WAUS41 (BOS) Sierra, Tango, and Zulu  
WAUS42 (MIA) Sierra, Tango, and Zulu  
WAUS43 (CHI) Sierra, Tango, and Zulu

WAUS44 (DFW) Sierra, Tango, and Zulu  
WAUS45 (SLC) Sierra, Tango, and Zulu  
WAUS46 (SFO) Sierra, Tango, and Zulu

Examples of G-AIRMET XML messages can be found at:

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/data/raw/lw/>.

More information about XML G-AIRMETs can be found in the Product Description Document (PDD) at:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/pdd\\_xml\\_g-airmet.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/pdd_xml_g-airmet.pdf)

For questions regarding the TAC AIRMET retirement, please contact:

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NWS Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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