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Technical Implementation Notice 10-48 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
841 AM EST Tue Jan 18 2011

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From: Timothy McClung
 Chief, Science Plans Branch
 Office of Science and Technology

Subject: Amended: Changes to NCEP BUFR Products: Effective Date January
25, 2011

Amended to announce the new implementation date. Issues that arose during testing in December have been resolved. The implementation and associated Binary Universal Form for the Representation of meteorological data (BUFR) format changes will take place on Tuesday, January 25, 2011.

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will upgrade the software used to create model output products in BUFR format. This upgrade will result in the following two changes to the format of all NCEP BUFR products:

- The identification section of each BUFR message will indicate the use of Version 13 of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Master Table. NCEP BUFR products currently use Version 12.
- An additional empty (zero subset) BUFR message will now be included within all files that contain BUFR table messages. These empty messages are recognizable as having a data category value of 11 within the identification section of the message.

Note that this change does not affect Model Output Statistics (MOS) and Localized Aviation MOS Product (LAMP) products.

Sample NCEP BUFR products are available at:

<ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/datal/nccf/com/bufrlib>

The "current" directory contains the BUFR products created with the current operational BUFR software. The "new" directory contains the same products generated with the new BUFR software.

For questions regarding these changes, please contact:

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