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Technical Implementation Notice 13-18  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
1045 AM EDT Fri Jul 19 2013

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

Subject: Addition of Satellite Observations to Global Data Assimilation  
System: Effective August 20, 2013

Effective Tuesday, August 20, 2013, with the 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) cycle, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will begin incorporating additional satellite data in the Global Data Assimilation System (GDAS). These data are necessary to keep up with the evolving observing system. This change does not alter the format or content of any output from the GDAS.

The additional observations to be included are the NPP CrIS data, METOP-B AMSU-A/MHS/GRAS data, and SEVIRI data from Meteosat-10. All data should provide some additional information to the assimilation system, but experiments to date have not shown any significant positive or negative forecast impact.

In addition to the potential additional information in the data, the observations are being added to increase the resiliency to potential future loss and evolution of the observing system. The NPP CrIS data supplies similar information and is in a similar orbit to the Aqua AIRS data. The METOP-B data is being incorporated since the METOP-B satellite is replacing the METOP-A satellite as the primary morning satellite. SEVIRI data from Meteosat-10 replaces data from Meteosat-9.

If you have questions about this change, please contact:

John Derber  
NWS/NCEP Environmental Modeling Center  
College Park, MD  
[john.derber@noaa.gov](mailto:john.derber@noaa.gov)

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