

NOUS41 KWBC 221700
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 23-19
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1200 PM EST Wed Feb 22 2023

To: Subscribers:
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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: Ajay Mehta
 Director, NWS Office of Observations

Subject: Activation of Metop-C ASCAT Winds on the Satellite Broadcast
Network on or about March 24, 2023

On or about March 24, 2023, ocean surface wind vectors from the Advanced Scatterometer (ASCAT) aboard the Metop-C satellite will become available via the NWS Satellite Broadcast Network (SBN)'s NMC channel (Port 1201, PID 101).

ASCAT winds from the Metop-A and/or Metop-B satellites have been on SBN since November 2008, as described in Technical Implementation Notice [TIN08-68](#), and more recently in Service Change Notice [SCN22-72](#).

ASCAT winds from Metop-C on SBN will have the following World Meteorological Organization (WMO) headers:

JSXX01 KNES
JSXX02 KNES
JSXX03 KNES
JSXX04 KNES
JSXX05 KNES
JSXX06 KNES
JSXX07 KNES
JSXX08 KNES
JSXX09 KNES
JSXX10 KNES

The first nine (9) WMO headers (JSXX0[1-9] KNES) will denote Metop-C ASCAT winds data that intersects the nine geographic areas listed in [TIN08-68](#):

JSXX01 KNES: 35S to 37N / 35W westward to 90W
JSXX02 KNES: 37N to 75N / 35W westward to 90W
JSXX03 KNES: 35S to 37N / 90W westward to 109W
JSXX04 KNES: 37N to 75N / 90W westward to 109W
JSXX05 KNES: 35S to 42N / 109W westward to 140W
JSXX06 KNES: 42N to 75N / 109W westward to 128W and 4N to 42N / 128W
 westward to 140W
JSXX07 KNES: 35S to 50N / 140W westward to 180
JSXX08 KNES: 35S to 50N / 180 westward to 130E

JSXX09 KNES: 52N to 75N / 128W westward to 140W and 50N to 75N / 140W
westward to 130E

These headers were previously used for Metop-A ASCAT winds, until Metop-A ceased operations in November 2021. Sites still configured to receive Metop-A ASCAT winds will begin receiving Metop-C ASCAT winds for these nine areas without any further configuration.

A 10th WMO header (JSXX10 KNES) will denote Metop-C ASCAT winds data outside the nine areas listed in [TIN08-68](#). This 10th area is therefore bounded by the following coordinates:

JSXX10 KNES: 35S to 75N / 130E westward to 35W and 75N to 90N (all
longitudes) and 90S to 35S (all longitudes)

This area includes the North and South Atlantic Oceans east of 35W; the Indian Ocean, the North and South Pacific Oceans west of 130E, the polar region north of 75N, and all points south of 35S.

The "JSXX10 KNES" header has not been previously used on the SBN: sites wishing to receive Metop-C ASCAT winds data outside the nine areas may need to configure their systems to recognize this WMO header.

ASCAT winds from Metop-C will add about 400 files/day to the SBN, amounting to about 24 MB/day (i.e., 1 MB/hr, 0.002 Mbps). ASCAT winds data are encoded as BUFR files with the following parameters:

Parameter	Units
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Wind direction at 10 meters	degrees
Wind speed at 10 meters	m/s
Rainfall detection	0 or 1

Additional details about ASCAT Winds are available from [NOAA OSPO](#) (<https://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/atmosphere/ascats/>) and [EUMETSAT](#) (<https://www.eumetsat.int/ascats/>).

Critical weather or other factors may affect the timing of this change.

For questions pertaining to this change, please contact:

NOAA/NWS Office of Observations
Silver Spring, MD
Email: nws-obs-satellites@noaa.gov

or

AWIPS Network Control Facility (NCF) Help Desk
NOAA/NWS Office of Central Processing
Silver Spring, MD
Phone: 888-808-8624

For questions regarding the content or distribution of the products listed here, please contact:

Environmental Satellite Processing Center (ESPC) Help Desk
Suitland, MD

Phone: 301-817-3880

Email: espcoperations@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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