

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

OFCM



OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL COORDINATOR FOR
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
AVIATION WEATHER USER FORUM
*AVIATION WEATHER: OPPORTUNITIES
FOR IMPLEMENTATION*



July 25-26, 2000
Bethesda Ramada
Hotel and Conference Center
Bethesda, Maryland

**Product Development ✦ Product Dissemination ✦ Cockpit Displays
Training ✦ Decision Support Systems/Capabilities**

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Aviation Weather User Forum
“Aviation Weather: Opportunities for Implementation”

July 25-26, 2000
Bethesda Ramada Hotel and Conference Center
Bethesda, Maryland

Washington, DC
September, 2000

FOREWORD

In 1995, the National Research Council (NRC) produced a report entitled “Aviation Weather Services, A Call for Federal Leadership and Action.” The National Aviation Weather Program Council (NAWPC), consisting of representatives from federal agencies having involvement in aviation weather, responded to the findings and recommendations made in this report. Chartered under the auspices of the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (OFCM), The NAWPC formed a Joint Action Group (JAG) to develop the “National Aviation Weather Program Strategic Plan.” The OFCM published this plan in 1997. The NAWPC then directed the JAG to develop an implementation document. As a result, the OFCM published the “National Aviation Weather Initiatives” document in February 1999.

The publication of the “Strategic Plan” and “Initiatives” marked the completion of the first two tiers of a four-tier planning process. Under the direction of the NAWPC, the agencies have undertaken Tier 3, Service Design, and Tier 4, Budgets and Schedules. In compiling the Tier 3/4 federal agency information, we have highlighted work accomplished, identified opportunities for immediate or near-term implementation, and assessed where user and industry efforts are helping government agencies achieve the National Aviation Weather Program objectives.

The OFCM and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) co-sponsored the Aviation Weather User Forum “Aviation Weather: Opportunities for Implementation”, held on July 25-26, 2000, in Bethesda, Maryland. This forum brought together key government agency representatives as well as a cross-section of professionals representing commercial, business, and general aviation. Forum dynamics clearly demonstrated unanimous interest in aviation safety, efficiency, and effectiveness for the benefit of all. Peter H. Challan, Deputy Associate Administrator for Air Traffic Services, FAA, and Scott B. Gudes, Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, were keynote speakers.

This document summarizes the proceedings of the Aviation Weather User Forum and provides an action plan for initiatives. I wish to thank my colleagues in the FAA for co-sponsoring this important event. I am indebted to my staff and the members of the Joint Action Group for Aviation Weather for helping to plan and make this forum a success. Finally, my deepest appreciation goes to the Aviation Weather User Forum participants whose willingness and interest provided significant contributions to further close existing gaps. Without your vigorous and expert participation, our ability to identify and resolve specific issues could not have been accomplished.

Samuel P. Williamson
Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services
and Supporting Research

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