

NOAA Assistant Administrator for Weather Services, and National Weather Service Director

13<sup>th</sup> Conference on Aviation, Range, and Aerospace Meteorology 88th AMS Annual Meeting New Orleans, Louisiana January 21, 2008



# NWS Mission & Aviation Weather



- Provide climate, water, weather forecasts and warnings to protect life and property and enhance the economy
- 76 billion observations
- 4 million aviation forecasts
- 94 thousand aviation warnings

#### A Typical Year Brings:

- 7 Hurricanes
- 1,000 Tornadoes
- **5**,000 Floods
- 10,000 Violent Thunderstorms
- Drought Conditions
- 500 Deaths; 5,000 Injuries; \$14 Billion in Losses



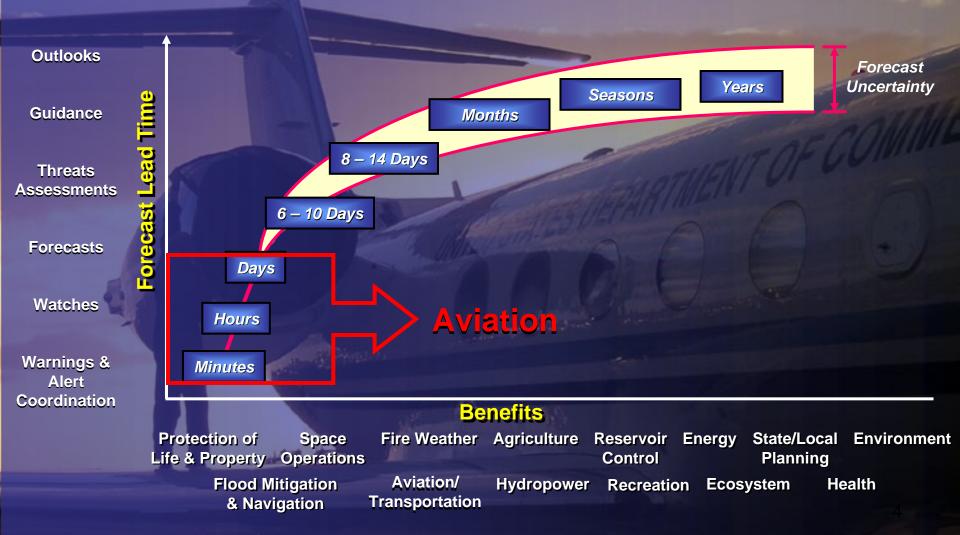






### NWS Aviation Services Seamless Suite of Products



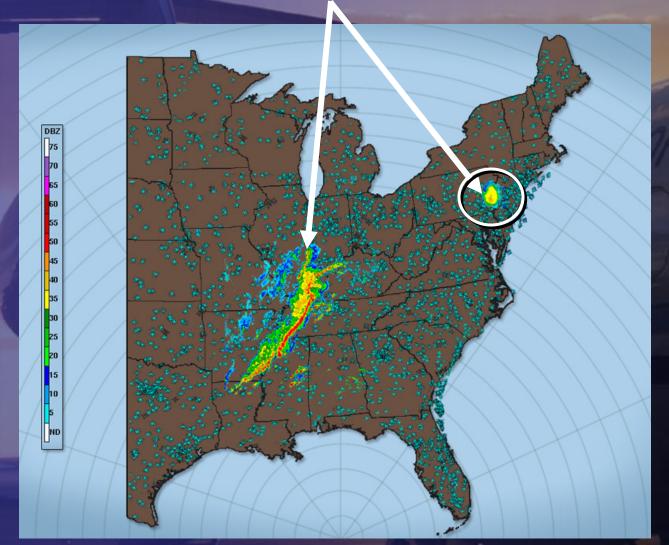




#### NWS Aviation Challenges Weather & Traffic Density



Which weather system has greater impact on the NAS?





### NWS Aviation Services What We're Doing

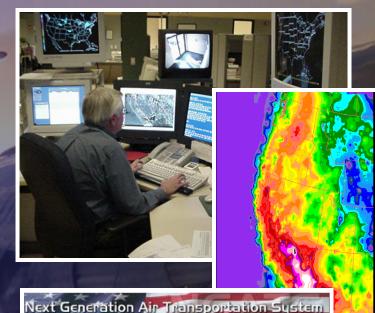


Working to meet challenges

NWS aviation service improvements

New and experimental products

Next Generation Air Transportation System

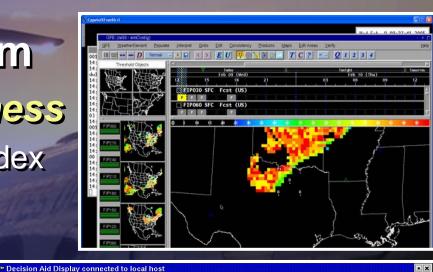


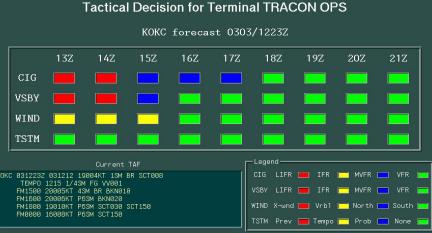


What We're Doing

**Today's Aviation Service Improvements** 

Improved CWSU program Better situational awareness Weather Impacted Traffic Index More accurate "real time" picture New products Tactical decision aids CIG VSBY



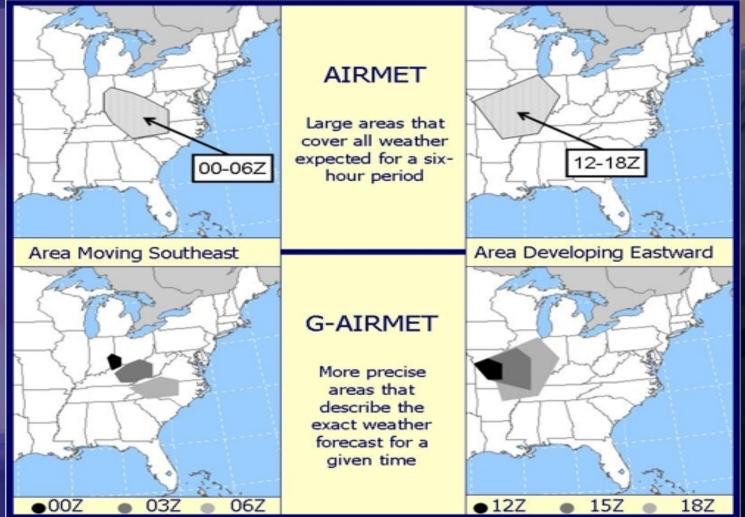




#### What We're Doing New Products



#### Graphical Aviation Forecast (GFA)





### What We're Doing Improving Observations



Adding water vapor sensors to MDCRS

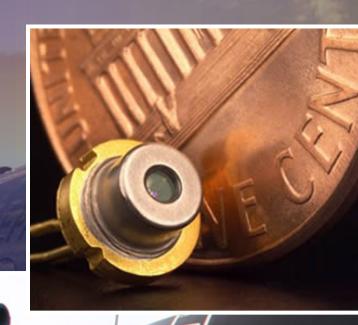
Integrating TAMDAR data

Enhancing radar coverage

Planning for future

 Networked observations integrated into common operational weather picture

Aircraft becoming nodes in a weather sensing network



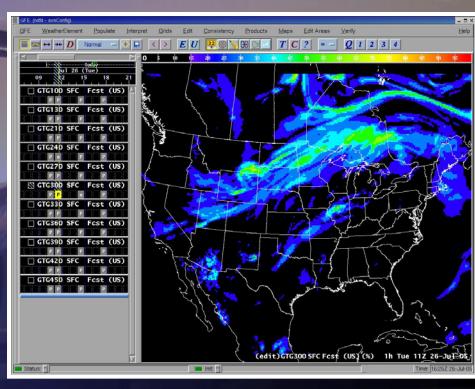


### What We're Doing Improving Forecasts



#### Improving models

- Refining automated digital products
- Moving to AWIPS II
- Planning for future
  - Systems enabling meteorologists to add value to digital forecasts
  - Integration of multiple forecasts into a single weather picture



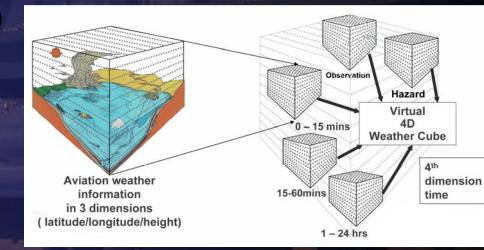


### What We're Doing NextGen: 4D & Digital Data



#### Planning 4D Weather Cube

- Meteorologist oversight
- Digital probabilistic forecasts
- Continuous updates
- Adding elements to NDFD
- Collaboration via JPDO (DOD, FAA, NOAA)





### What We're Doing NextGen: Decision Support



Providing all NAS Managers and Users with common weather picture

- Enabling better collaboration among user groups
- Resulting in more consistent decisions

Building confidence with more accurate and timely weather information

- Enabling more effective utilization of available airspace
- Causing fewer delays and re-routes

A Common Weather Picture will Reduce the Amount of Airspace Constrained by Adverse Weather



## Our Commitment Aviation Weather Services



Provide accurate and timely aviation weather services for the safety and efficiency of NAS

- Improve observations and forecasts
- Promote common weather situational awareness
- Integrate weather information into decision making

