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October 30, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR: Holders of Federal Meteorological Handbook No. 1

FROM: Samuel P. Williamson  
Federal Coordinator

SUBJECT: Change 1 to Federal Meteorological Handbook No. 1  
Effective November 5, 1998

The attached Change 1 to Federal Meteorological Handbook No. 1 (FMH-1), *Surface Weather Observations and Reports*, consists of pen and ink annotations to (a) correct errors and omissions identified in the original publication, dated December 1995 and (b) implement METAR/SPECI\* code changes adopted by the World Meteorological Organization for the reporting of ice pellets.

Attachment

\*WMO Code METAR (FM 15-IX Ext.) and SPECI (FM 16-IX Ext.)

## Change No. 1 to FMH-1 (December 1995)

### Pen and Ink Changes

#### Chapter 8 - Present Weather

- Page 8-1, para. 8.3.1.i: Delete "light" from the definition
- Page 8-5, para. 8.5  
(top of page; two occurrences): Change Table "8.6" to "8.5"
- para. 8.5.1.a(1)  
thru  
para. 8.5.1.c(2): Change reference "12.7.1.1" to "12.7.1.k"
- para. 8.5.1.c(5)  
thru  
para. 8.5.1.c(7)  
(Ice pellets and  
Ice pellet showers): Change reference "12.7.1.1" to "12.7.1.k"
- para. 8.5.1.c(8)  
(Hail showers): Change reference "12.7.1.1" to "12.7.1.k"
- para. 8.5.1.c(9): Delete "and 12.7.1.n" (reposition closing parenthesis)
- Page 8-6, Table 8.6: Change Table "8.6" to "8.5"
- Page 8-6, Table 8.5: Under column with title PRECIPITATION, change "PE" to "PL"
- Page 8-8, Table 8.6: Under column with title Manual, change "PE" to "PL" and "SHPE" to "SHPL"

#### Chapter 9 - Sky Condition

- Page 9-1, para. 9.3: Delete "height above the earth's surface of the"  
Insert "aloft" after layer  
Delete "that is" after aloft
- para. 9.4.1.c: Delete "(see Table 9-1)"
- Page 9-2, Table 9-1: Delete Table 9-1
- Page 9-2, para. 9.4.5: Insert "aloft" after layer
- Page 9-3, para. 9.4.7.b: Change Table "9-2" to "9-1"
- Table 9-2: Renumber Table "9-2" to "9-1"
- para. 9.5.2  
- 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph: Change Table "9-3" to "9-2"  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph: Change to read as follows:

"Automated stations shall report no more than three layers. The selection of layers reported shall be made in accordance with Table 9-3. Manual stations shall report no more than six layers. If more than six layers are observed, then use Table 9-3 to determine which layers are to be reported. Additionally, all layers with associated cumulonimbus or towering cumulus shall be identified by appending the contractions **CB** and **TCU**, respectively."

Page 9-4, Table 9-3: Renumber Table "9-3" to "9-2"  
 Table 9-4: Renumber Table "9-4" to "9-3"  
 para. 9.5.4: Change Table "9-5" to "9-4"  
 Table 9-5: Renumber Table "9-5" to "9-4"  
 Page 9-5, para. 9.5.6: Change Table "9-2" to "9-1"  
 para. 9.6: Change Table "9-6" to "9-5"  
 Table 9-6: Renumber Table "9-6" to "9-5"

#### Chapter 12 - Coding

Page 12-4, Table 12.2: Under column with title PRECIPITATION, change "PE" to "PL"  
 Page 12-5, para. 12.6.8.a(1): Insert "(IC)" and ", " after ice crystals  
 Delete "and"  
 Insert "(GR or GS)" and ", " after hail  
 Insert "and unknown precipitation (UP)" after (GR or GS)  
 Page 12-6, para. 12.6.8.b(3): Change "PE" to "PL"  
 para. 12.6.8.b(4): Change "PE" to "PL"  
 para. 12.6.8.c(1): Change "PE" to "PL"  
 para. 12.6.8.d(3): Insert "(PY)" after Spray

#### Appendix A - Glossary

Page A-3, ceiling: Delete "height above the earth's surface of the"  
 Insert "aloft" after layer  
 Delete "that is" after aloft  
 Page A-4, freezing fog: Delete "also called ice fog" from end of definition and  
 replace the semicolon ";" with a "."  
 Page A-10,  
 unknown precipitation: Delete "light" from the definition

#### Appendix B - List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

Page B-4: Change acronym "PE" to "PL"