

New DCPS

Getting newly activated platforms into HADS

New Data Collection Platforms (DCPs) are added into the HADS processing environment only upon a request from a National Weather Service Forecast Office (WFO) or from a River Forecast Center (RFC) **AND** upon the receipt of a NWSLI for the new site.

The HADS program attempts to keep all NWS users well informed regarding the activation of *newly deployed or redeployed* data locations via the HADS NewDCPs web page;

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hads/newdcp.html>

The activities associated with this page are as follows:

- HADS personnel become aware of a NEW DCP assignment via daily interactions with the NESDIS DAPS database
- When a DCP 8 character identifier is added to NESDIS/DAPS
 - HADS Technicians determine if this ‘new’ DCP is from a GOES operator typically processed by HADS ... if so the 8 character id is added to a “newdcps” file on a HADS workstation
- At 14:30 UTC each day, a process is executed, taking all of the 8 character identifiers from the “newdcps” file and determines if any current raw data is available from any of these ‘new’ data sites.
- If current raw data is actually available from a site, then its’ 8 character identifier is written into another data file named “active_newdcps”
- The meta-data that has been provided by the DCP owner/operator is gather for each site that has been determined to be an active_newdcp
- The NewDCPs web page is then constructed by sorting, on a state-by-state basis, all of the meta-data available for each of these actively transmitting sites
- The NewDCPs web page is structured alphabetically by state
 - The text coloring of information cycles red and blue as the state changes
 - If the meta-data or the state information is not available, then the dcp is listed in black text in the upper portion of the web page.
- Once a “new” DCP has been defined into the HADS network, the 8 character identifier is removed from the “newdcps” file and it will then no longer appear on the “NewDCPs” web page.

Expectations from field offices

In order for a new dcp to be added to the HADS network, a valid NWSLI must exist for the data site. When an NWSLI is provided to the HADS team (hadsteam@gateway2.nws.noaa.gov) a HADS member will perform the necessary actions to define the site into HADS.

The HADS team also receives automated e-mail messages from the NWSLI Oracle database. When an NWSLI message is received, it fulfills the mission of the field office notification and as such the new site is added to HADS.

An important note of caution....the information that DCP owners/operators provide to the NESDIS/DAPS database is not always up to date and accurate and these inaccuracies are carried into the NewDCPs web page.

Before adding a new dcp to the HADS network, HADS members attempt to verify the meta-data information that was provided by the owner/operator. It is extremely helpful if field office personnel also attempt to verify the information from their local office cooperators.