

SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT

Experimental National Hurricane Center Videocasts

Approved:

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Director, Office of Climate,

Water and Weather Services

Date:

Experimental NHC Videocasts

Part I - Mission Connection

- a. Service Description – The National Hurricane Center (NHC) has entered into an agreement with Weather Decision Technologies (WDT), Inc. to provide internet protocol (ip) based audio and video streaming of its hourly hurricane briefings. The URL to the briefings will be posted on the NHC web site when the media pool is activated. Anyone with access to the internet and a web browser supporting audio and video can view the briefings broadcast from the NHC.
- b. Purpose – The relationship with WDT, Inc. is intended to provide distant media outlets and the general public with access to these briefings, to disseminate hurricane information for the protection of life and property, and to leverage technologies and resources not directly available to NHC.
- c. Audience – This experimental videocast service targets the internet audience.
- d. Presentation Format – The internet browser streaming video format is an industry standard which allows video products to be disseminated via the internet.
- e. Feedback Method – Feedback may be provided at:
<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=nhcvid>

Questions on this experimental service may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Mr. Dennis Feltgen, Public Affairs Officer
National Hurricane Center
11691 SW 17th Street
Miami, FL 33165-2149

dennis.feltgen@noaa.gov
305-229-4404

Part II - Technical Description

- a. Format & Science Basis - The videocasts from NHC will summarize the NHC tropical cyclone media advisories, and provide details on the four hurricane hazards: wind, storm, surge, heavy rainfall, and tornadoes. The details in the videocasts will supplement the existing suite of NHC text and graphical products.
- b. Service Availability - The product is generally available at the top of each hour (except at 4 AM, 10 AM, 4 PM, 10 PM ET) when the media pool is activated. It is a distribution system only. No information will be edited or filtered. NHC will have full control of the content sent over the WDT, Inc. system.

The video briefings are available to anyone with internet access and a web browser supporting mp4 format audio and video at:

<http://www.imaphurricane.info/>

Because this service is experimental, the broadcasts may not always be available in a timely manner and they may not be available for every media event.

Broadcasts older than four hours will be automatically removed from the URL.

c. Additional Information

A full description of other NWS Tropical Cyclone Program products is provided in NWSI 10-601, which is available on the Internet at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/010.htm>