

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: April 24, 2003

WINDS AND TEMPERATURE ALOFT FORECAST

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Winds and Temperatures Aloft Forecast (FDHW) is an alphanumeric product providing a coded forecast for winds and temperatures aloft for Lihue, Honolulu, Kahului and Hilo within the National Weather Services Pacific Regions Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu Area of Responsibility (AOR). The AORs for WFO Honolulu vary and depend upon the program (tropical cyclone, aviation, marine, public, and satellite). For the FDHW, WFO Honolulu AOR is the main Hawaiian islands and immediate surrounding area.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The FDHW is routinely prepared four times a day (0345 UTC, 0945 UTC, 1545 UTC and 2145 UTC) and updated as necessary. The forecast provides winds and temperatures at altitudes of 3, 6, 9 and 12 thousand feet (actual altitude) and 18, 24 and 30 thousand feet (pressure altitude) at four main sites in the main Hawaiian islands (Lihue, Honolulu, Kahului and Hilo). WFO Honolulu prepares the FDHW based on interpretation of satellite imagery, various model fields, NEXRAD and other observational, and forecast data. The FDHW is provided for the protection of life and property and enhancing the nations economy.

3. Audience:

The target audience for the product includes: general and commercial aviation interests, military aviation, FAA and other government agencies, international aviation users, pilots, airline dispatchers and other interested mainly aviation users in the general public.

4. Presentation Format:

WFO Honolulu provides the FDHW in an alphanumeric format and prepares the product in a consistent manner. NWS policy documents describe any differences and are located on the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm

5. Feedback Method:

The NWS is constantly seeking to improve its products based on user feedback. Customers can provide continuous feedback through e-mail links to the local program managers via the offices Internet web sites and via e-mail links to the program manages in the Aviation Weather Services Branch, National Weather Service (NWS) Headquarters. WFO Honolulu and the NWS Headquarters also obtain feedback through meetings with interested in aviation, the FAA, military and other government agencies and through Customer Surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the Winds and Temperatures Aloft Forecast may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Richard Stone W/OS23
Aviation Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 21910-3285
or e-mail questions and comments to: richard.stone@noaa.gov.

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

WFO Honolulu prepares and disseminates the FDHW in an alphanumeric coded format. WFO Honolulu prepares the FDHW based on interpretation of satellite imagery, various model fields, NEXRAD, and other observational and forecast data. The FDHW provides winds and temperatures at altitudes of 3, 6, 9 and 12 thousand feet (actual altitude) and 18, 24 and 30 thousand feet (pressure altitude) at four main sites in the main Hawaiian islands (Lihue, Honolulu, Kahului and Hilo). WFO Honolulu prepares the product in a standard and concise format with all required elements.

2. **Availability:**

The FDHW is prepared four times a day (0345 UTC, 0945 UTC, 1545 UTC and 2145 UTC) and updated as necessary. WFO Honolulu disseminates this product via the internet, MET 100, family of services and NOAA port. Additional information on Aviation product dissemination is available at: <http://www.aviationweather.gov>.

The following WWW Internet site is one location to access the FDHW product:

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/>.

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of the FDHW policy, area of responsibility, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination is located in NWS Instruction 10-810 which is available via the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.