

Appendix A: Summary of Forecast Products

PRODUCT	PURPOSE	ISSUANCE TIMES	VALID PERIOD
Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF)	Concise statement of the expected meteorological conditions significant to aviation for a specified time period within 5SM of an airport.	00Z, 06Z, 12Z, 18Z	24 or 30 hours
Significant Meteorological Information (SIGMET)	Weather advisory concerning weather significant to the safety of all aircraft.	Un-scheduled	Up to 4 or 6 hours
Convective SIGMET (WST)	Weather advisory concerning convective weather significant to the safety of all aircraft.	Hourly at H+55	2 hrs; 2-6 hours for outlook
Aiman's Meteorological Information (AIRMET)	Advisory concerning weather phenomena which are of operational interest to all aircraft and potentially hazardous to aircraft having limited capability because of lack of equipment, instrumentation, or pilot qualifications. AIRMETs concern weather of less severity than that covered by SIGMETs or Convective SIGMETs.	Varies (4 times per day)	6 hrs
Center Weather Advisory (CWA)	Unscheduled weather advisory issued by CWSU meteorologists for ATC use to alert pilots of existing or anticipated adverse weather conditions within the next 2 hours.	Un-scheduled	Up to 2 hours
Meteorological Impact Statement (MIS)	Discussion product that summarizes weather conditions with potential impact on flow control and flight operations planning in an ARTCC's area of responsibility.	Un-scheduled	Up to 2 days
Wind and Temperature Aloft Forecast (FB)	Computer-generated forecast of wind and temperature at selected times, altitudes, and locations.	00Z, 06Z, 12Z, 18Z,	7, 9, or 12 hours

Appendix B: Hazards Matrix

	TAF	AIRMET (WA)			SIGMET (WS)	Con- vective SIGMET (WST)	Center Weather Advisory (CWA)	Meteo- rological Impact Statement (MIS)
		Sierra	Tango	Zulu				
IFR	X	X						
Low IFR ¹	X						X	X
Mountain Obscuration (MTN OBSCN)		X						
TURB	MOD		X				X	X
	SEV				X		X	X
STG SFC WND (≥ 30KT)	X		X				X	X
Low-level Wind Shear Potential (LLWS POTENTIAL)	X		X				X	X
ICE	MOD			X			X	X
	SEV				X		X	X
Thunderstorm (TS)	X				X ²	X	X	X
Widespread Duststorm (WDSR DS)					X		X	X
Widespread Sandstorm (WDSR SS)					X		X	X
Volcanic Ash (VA)	X				X		X	X
Tropical Cyclone (TC)					X			

1. Low IFR is defined as ceilings less than 500 feet AGL and/or visibility less than 1SM.

2. A Convective SIGMET (WST) is issued instead of a SIGMET (WS) for thunderstorms which occur over the contiguous U.S.