

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT

Hurricane/Typhoon Local Statement

APPROVED: //SIGNED//

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Hurricane/Typhoon Local Statement Product Description Document

Part I - Mission Connection

- a. Product Description - The Hurricane Local Statements (HLS) is a segmented product alerting the public of present and anticipated local tropical cyclone affects. Coastal and selected inland Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) issue HLSs when their County Warning Area (CWA) and adjacent coastal waters are affected by a tropical cyclone watch/warning or evacuation orders. The HLS adds specific details to the Tropical Cyclone Center's advisories. The hazards are prioritized to focus on the greatest threat and the most important information impacting the area. HLSs may also be issued as needed to address rumors or to clarify tropical cyclone related information for their CWA.
- b. Purpose and Intended Use - The HLS is an event-driven product and is updated as necessary, but at a minimum every 6 hours, to alert the public, media, and local decision makers of potential or actual storm affects due to tropical cyclones. The product is intended to provide information to assist in the preparation and implementation of necessary precautions for the protection of life and property, as well as to minimize the economic losses as a result of tropical cyclones.
- c. Audience - The target audience for this product are the federal, state and local emergency management agencies, the general public, and the media.
- d. Presentation Format - The product is an alphanumeric segmented format.
- e. Feedback Method - Continuous feedback is available via an internet page e-mail link to the program managers in the Tropical Cyclone Weather Services Program. Feedback on this product is obtained at Focus Group meetings, Boat Shows, Customer Surveys, and Emergency Management officials.

Technical and policy questions and comments about the HLS may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Timothy Schott, W/OS21
Tropical Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13126
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285

or e-mail questions and comments to: timothy.schott@noaa.gov

Part II - Technical Description

Format and Science Basis – The product type line options are Hurricane (Name) Local Statement, Typhoon (Name) Local Statement, Tropical Storm (Name) Local Statement,

Tropical Depression (Number) Local Statement, Subtropical Storm (Name) Local Statement. HLSs will cover marine coastal zones, coastal land zones and inland zones which might be impacted by a tropical cyclone.

The first portion of the HLS will contain an Overview Block with one or more section headers. The Overview Block is followed by segments providing Valid Event Time Code (VTEC). The phenomena codes associated with the HLS are: HU- hurricane, TY - typhoon and TR - tropical storm.

When tropical cyclones threaten the Samoas (American Samoa and Samoa), the two local offices will coordinate with Regional Specialized Meteorological Center Nadi, the Central Pacific Hurricane Center, and with each other to determine the best integrated and internally consistent forecast of conditions expected in the area. In the particular case the HLS will be a free formatted text product as the capabilities for a segmented VTEC product do not exist for those offices.

- a. Product Availability - When tropical cyclone watches or warnings are in effect the HLS is disseminated at a minimum of every six hours though they can be issued more frequently depending upon the situation. Typically HLSs become more frequent as the storm nears the coast. The product is made available via various means, such as: the internet, NOAAPort, NOAA Weather Radio all Hazards, and the NOAA Weather Wire. Additional information on means of product dissemination is available at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm>

The following WWW internet site is one location to access the HLS product:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/forecast.htm>

- b. Additional Information - A description of Tropical Program policy, areas of responsibility, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination for the HLS product are described in NWS Instructions 10-601 to 10-606 which is made available on the internet at:

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