

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: April 30, 2003***

NEPHANALYSIS

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Nephanalysis is a graphic product providing a depiction of significant cloud features. National Weather Services Pacific Regions Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu prepares the Nephanalysis for a portion of its area of responsibility (AOR). The AORs for WFO Honolulu vary and depend upon the program (tropical cyclone, aviation, marine, public, and satellite). For the Nephanalysis program, WFO Honolulu AOR is from 110W to 160E longitude between 30S and 50N latitude. WFO Honolulu determined the criteria for significant cloud features based upon customers inputs.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The Nephanalysis is a routinely prepared product. WFO Honolulu prepares the Nephanalysis based upon interpretation of satellite imagery and other observational data twice per day (0544 UTC and 1744 UTC). The Nephanalysis provides a graphic depiction of significant cloud features and WFO Honolulu updates it as needed for significant changes. Mariners use the Nephanalysis to locate hazardous weather areas, to plan cruises, to locate good fishing areas, and other activities. WFO Honolulu provides the Nephanalysis for the protection of life and property and enhancing the nations economy.

3. Audience:

The target audience for the product includes: ocean-going vessels, fishing fleet, cruise ships, barge and tugboat operators, maritime organizations, recreational mariners, and the general user community.

4. Presentation Format:

WFO Honolulu provides the Nephanalysis product in a graphic format and prepares it a consistent manner.

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

5. Feedback Method:

WFO Honolulu is constantly seeking to improve its products based on user feedback. Users can provide continuous feedback through e-mail links to the local program managers via the WFO Honolulu Internet web site and via e-mail links to the program managers in the Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch, National Weather Service (NWS) Headquarters. WFO Honolulu also obtains feedback through meetings with interested mariners, harbor masters, cruise ship operators, marina operators, Coast Guard, Navy, and through Customer Surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the Nephanalysis may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Brian LaMarre W/OS21
Marine Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13118
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285
or e-mail questions and comments to: Brian.Lamarre@noaa.gov.

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

WFO Honolulu prepares and disseminates the Nephanalysis in a graphic format. The product contains a graphic depiction of significant cloud features as determined by both GOES and GMS satellite imagery and other observational data along with an alpha-numeric description of cloud types and areal coverage of each cloud type.

2. **Availability:**

WFO Honolulu prepares the Nephanalysis based upon interpretation of satellite imagery and other observational data twice per day (at 0544 UTC and 1744 UTC) to provide a graphic depiction of significant cloud features and updates it as needed for significant changes. WFO Honolulu disseminates this product via marine radio facsimile and via the internet. Additional information on Marine and Coastal product dissemination is available at:

<http://weather.gov/om/marine/home.htm>.

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

<http://weather.gov/om/marine/forecast.htm#bay>

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/graphics/neph.gif>

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of the Nephanalysis policy, area of responsibility, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination is located in NWS Instructions 10-310 and 10-320 which are available via the Internet at:

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

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