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

ROUTE FORECAST

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. **Product/Service Description:**
   The Route Forecast (ROFOR) is an alphanumeric product providing a coded route forecast for regularly scheduled flights or upon request for flights that either begin or end in or that have most of the flight path within the National Weather Services Pacific Regions Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu or WFO Guams Area of Responsibility (AOR). The AORs for WFO Honolulu and WFO Guam vary and depend upon the program (tropical cyclone, aviation, marine, public, and satellite). For the ROFOR, WFO Honolulus AOR is the Oakland Oceanic FIR south of 30N latitude between 140W and 160E longitude. WFO Guams AOR is the Oakland Oceanic FIR south of 30N latitude and west of 160E. WFO Honolulu prepares both regularly scheduled and upon request (unscheduled) ROFORs while WFO Guam only prepares upon request (unscheduled) ROFORs.

2. **Purpose/Intented Use:**
   The ROFOR is both a routinely scheduled and upon request (unscheduled) product mostly for low level flights at flight levels 24000 feet or lower. WFOs Honolulu and Guam prepare ROFORs based on interpretation of satellite imagery, various model fields, and other observational and forecast data. All ROFORs contain flight-level winds and temperatures and information on significant en route weather. Some ROFORs also contain data for multiple altitudes, TAFs for destination points and alternates, a synopsis, and zone weather. The ROFOR 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, and military and government agencies.

4. **Presentation Format:**
   WFOs Honolulu and Guam provide the product in an alphanumeric format and prepare them 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 managers in the Aviation Weather Services Branch, National Weather Service (NWS) Headquarters. WFO Honolulu, WFO Guam and the NWS Headquarters also obtain feedback through meetings with interested aviation interests, FAA, military and other government agencies and through Customer

Surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the Tropical Streamline Surface Analysis may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Richard Stone W/OS23
Aviation Weather Services 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:**
   WFOs Honolulu and Guam prepare and disseminate the ROFOR in an alphanumeric format. These offices prepare a ROFOR based on interpretation of satellite imagery, various model fields, ship and other observational and forecast data. The ROFOR provides a coded forecast for winds and temperatures and significant en-route weather over the Oakland Oceanic FIR south of 30N latitude and west of 140W longitude. WFOs Honolulu and Guam prepare the product in a standard and concise format with all required elements.

2. **Availability:**
   WFOs Honolulu and Guam prepare ROFORs four times a day for some routes, less often for other routes, and upon request (unscheduled) for flights beginning or ending in their AORs. WFOs Honolulu and Guam disseminate this product via the internet, 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 ROFOR product:
   http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/.

3. **Additional Information:**
   A description of the Route Forecast 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.