

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 19, 2003***

TROPICAL CYCLONE SUMMARY - FIXES

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Tropical Cyclone Summary-Fixes (TCS) is an alphanumeric product which the Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) provides when there is classifiable (using the Dvorak technique) tropical cyclone activity in the north central or south Pacific. The TCS is a satellite-based estimate of tropical cyclone location, movement, and intensity with a brief remarks section. National Weather Services (NWS) Pacific Regions CPHC prepares TCS for a portion of their area of responsibility (AOR). The AORs for CPHC/Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu (CPHC is collocated with the Weather Forecast Office Honolulu) varies depending upon the program (tropical cyclone, aviation, marine, public, and satellite). For TCS program, CPHCs AOR is the area north of the equator between 140W - 180 longitude and from the equator to 25 S latitude between 120W to 160E.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The TCS is a satellite-based estimate of tropical cyclone location, movement, and intensity. This provides meteorological information to marine interests, military forecasters and national meteorological services of countries/members in the Pacific Ocean area.

3. Audience:

The target audience for the product includes: national and international civilian and military forecasters across the Pacific such as CPHC Hurricane specialists; the Joint Typhoon Warning Center; Regional Specialized Meteorological Centers (RSMCs) at Tokyo and Nandi; and.

4. Presentation Format:

CPHC provides the product in alphanumeric format and prepares them in a consistent manner.

5. Feedback Method:

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 Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch, NWS Headquarters. The Pacific Region Offices and NWS Headquarters also obtain feedback through meetings with emergency managers, media personnel, boat show participants, tourist officials, health representatives, and through Customer Surveys.

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

National Weather Service
Attn: Scott Kiser W/OS21

Tropical Cyclone Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13126
Silver Spring, MD 21910-3285

or e-mail questions and comments to: Scott.Kiser@noaa.gov

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

CPHC prepares and disseminates the TCS in an alphanumeric format. The product is an event-driven one and CPHC prepares the TCS when there is classifiable (using the Dvorak technique) tropical cyclone activity in the north central Pacific or south Pacific. CPHC bases its intensity estimation on information gained through the application of the Dvorak technique. The center writes the product in a standard and concise format with all required elements.

2. **Availability:**

After the initial TCS, CPHC will provide scheduled updates at 0000, 0600, 1200, and 1800 UTC as long as the system is classifiable. The center disseminate the product via the Internet and the NOAA Weather Wire. Additional information on Tropical Cyclone product dissemination is available at:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>.

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

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

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of the Tropical Cyclone Weather Services program, policy, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination is located in NWS Instructions 10-601 which is available via the Internet at:

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