FPAW – 2006
Segment Four

Progress in
Obstructions to Vision Information

Ernie R. Dash
FAA FISDL (Raytheon)
Forecast Accuracy - 2004

- Avoid *over-forecasting* VFR Not Recommended (VNR)

  - Issued by Flight Service per 7110.10

  "*VFR Flight Not Recommended (VNR).* Include this statement when VFR flight is proposed and sky conditions or visibilities are present or forecast, surface or aloft, that *in your judgment* would make flight under visual flight rules doubtful. Describe the conditions, affected locations, and times.

  **NOTE:** *This recommendation is advisory in nature. The decision as to whether the flight can be conducted safely rests solely with the pilot."

  - Based on approved sources:

  "Use only weather forecasts, warnings, and advisories issued by an NWS office (including CWSUs), the U.S. military, foreign governments, or FAA owned or leased graphics systems."
NWS Product Improvements – More Fidelity

• **TAF:**
  – BECMG group eliminated
  – PROB 30 – Not allowed during first nine (9) hours
  – TEMPO – No longer than four (4) hours

• **AIRMET:**
  – G-AIRMET –
    • Issued every three hours
    • One hour snap-shots
  – October 2007 – implement as supplemental
• Add Summary Page with an “at a glance status”
  – Issue being worked through CDM.
  – Proposal submitted; coordinated with airlines

• RVR from all Level A Airports
  – No immediate solution
  – Preliminary options proposed
  – Requires engineering decision and funding
Aircraft Observations - 2005

• What can PIREPs provide that automets can’t, and vice versa? What is the right mix?
  – Automet (AMDAR) best for model processing; more consistency; QA possible
  – PIREPs still important, especially from non-equipped aircraft

• Explain efforts to get PIREP information into the forecast models and to the forecasters for validation
  – AWC initiative to increase PIREP collection and post on web
  – Other – Floor inputs - ??
Aircraft Observations - 2005

• Explain improvements to controller automation to simplify PIREP entry
  – ERAM planning as function for Release 2 (2011-2012)
Elimination of ASOS Equipment by FAA - 2006

• What are FAA & NWS Plans
  – No plans for elimination
  – Business review - Who owns, how maintained
    • No information available