U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Air Traffic Organization Policy

ORDER JO 7210.629

Effective Date:
December 1, 2008

SUBJ: Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD) Weather and Radar Processor (WARP) Recommended Settings for Host and En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM) Facilities

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1. Purpose of This Order. This order provides guidance regarding recommended settings for NEXRAD WARP in En Route Host and ERAM air traffic control facilities.

2. Audience. This notice applies to the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) En Route and Oceanic Service Unit.

3. Where Can I Find This Order? This order is available on the MYFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/air_traffic/publications.

4. Explanation of Policy Changes. This order provides guidance for recommended settings for NEXRAD WARP for Host and ERAM facilities.

5. Guidance. The following table describes the recommended NEXRAD WARP altitude filter key setting in accordance with the lowest and highest altitude limit for the applicable sector. Facilities shall identify the applicable WARP altitude filter key setting for each sector in a local directive.

Lowest altitude within the sector's control jurisdiction	Highest altitude within the sector's control jurisdiction	WARP Altitude Filter Key
Any altitude from the surface up to FL 230	Any altitude	000-600
FL 240	Any altitude between FL 240 and FL 600	240-330*
FL 330	Any altitude between FL 240 and FL 600	330-600*

** Note: For sectors in which there is no overlapping NEXRAD coverage within 248 NM, or sectors with airspace that overlie coastal areas, facilities should consider the benefits of the greater range (248 NM) afforded by the 000-600 WARP Optimal Mosaic product as compared to the layered product (124 NM).*

6. Action. En Route air traffic control facilities shall identify the applicable NEXRAD WARP altitude filter key setting for each sector in a local directive and ensure that controllers working operational positions are appropriately briefed.

7. Distribution. This notice is distributed to ATO En Route and Oceanic Service Unit offices; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center; and En Route and Oceanic air traffic control facilities.

Distribution: All En Route and Oceanic Facilities

Initiated By: AJE-3
En Route and Oceanic Safety and Operations Support

8. Background. These recommendations are based on the results of analyses related to the performance of the WARP Optimal Mosaic product, and a comparative assessment of the ability of each WARP altitude filter key setting to provide a comprehensive presentation of pertinent precipitation information for the corresponding altitude stratum. Existing procedures in FAA Order 7110.65, Air Traffic Control, Paragraph 2-6-4, Weather and Chaff Services, shall be used to report anomalies in NEXRAD WARP presentation.

9. Safety Risk Management. These recommendations provide further guidance to support local facility determinations for the selection of appropriate NEXRAD WARP equipment settings. An analysis was conducted that compared the differences in displayed precipitation between the various WARP products. The recommendations in this order reflect the conclusions supported by the technical analysis. The provisions of this directive do not affect any separation standard, or amend requirements for controllers to display and disseminate weather information. Accordingly, no additional safety assessment is warranted.

Kenneth F. Myers

for Luis A. Ramirez
Director, En Route and Oceanic Safety and Operations Support
Air Traffic Organization

10/31/08
Date Signed