



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Air Traffic Organization Policy

**ORDER**  
**JO 7210.629A**

**Effective Date:**  
July 21, 2009

**SUBJ:** Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD) Weather and Radar Processor (WARP) Recommended Settings for Host, En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM), and Ocean 21 Facilities, and Anchorage Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) Micro En Route Automated Tracking System (MEARTS) Sectors

**1. Purpose of This Order.** This order provides guidance regarding recommended settings for NEXRAD WARP in Host, ERAM, and Ocean 21 air traffic control facilities, and at Anchorage ARTCC MEARTS sectors.

**2. Audience.** 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/](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](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/air_traffic/publications).

**4. Cancellation.** Order JO 7210.629, Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD) Weather and Radar Processor (WARP) Recommended Settings for Host and En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM) Facilities is canceled effective July 21, 2009.

**5. Explanation of Policy Changes.** This revision supports the change to the WARP altitude filter key from 240-330 to 240-600. Additionally, certain editorial changes were incorporated into the guidance table, and language was added to the guidance paragraph to clarify that the recommended WARP altitude filter key settings are to be used only when the facility determines that WARP is displayed as the source of precipitation information for the sector.

**6. 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 when WARP is displayed as the source of precipitation information.

Lowest altitude within sector's control jurisdiction	Highest altitude within sector's control jurisdiction	WARP Altitude Filter Key	Effective Range
Any altitude from the surface up to FL 230	Any altitude up to FL 600	000-600	248 NM
Between FL 240 through FL 320	Any altitude up to FL 600	240-600*	124 NM
FL 330 or higher	Any altitude up to FL 600	330-600	124 NM

\* The 240-330 WARP altitude filter key will be changed to 240-600. Facilities may specify the use of the 240-330 filter key until it is replaced with the 240-600 filter key.

**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).

**7. Action.** En Route and Oceanic 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.

**8. 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.

**9. Background.** At Host, ERAM, and Ocean 21 facilities, and for the Anchorage ARTCC MicroEARTS sectors, the 240-330 WARP altitude filter key setting will be replaced with a 240-600 filter key setting. The recommendation for the use of the 240-330 filter key setting for those sectors having jurisdiction of airspace with the lowest altitude between FL 240 through FL 320 was originally identified in Order JO 7210.629, and is continued in this directive until the 240-330 filter key is replaced with the 240-600 filter key. The recommendations contained in JO 7210.629 and continued in this directive 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.

**10. Safety Risk Management.** The changes introduced by 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.



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2/6/09  
Date Signed