

Suffern Paul

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 9:48 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: required training for AWC for aviation icing...

So, as of right now, from a strictly aviation standpoint, nationally, there is no requirement for specific satellite training. The directive (10-815) has four training items that are required by all aviation forecasters (which is all forecasters):

- Distance Learning Aviation Course (DLAC) 1: Forecasting Fog/Low Stratus for Aviation Operations - 10 modules; ~22 hours
- DLAC 2: Producing Customer-Focused TAFs - 5 modules; ~13 hours
- The Impact of Weather on Air Traffic Management - 1 module; ~3 hours
- Weather Decision Support for the NAS - 1 module; ~3 hours

The DLAC courses have some satellite training involved (as I understand it), but they are both out of date. We are working with COMET to fix that. The idea, up until recently, was to have COMET replace old satellite information/images in current training modules (DLAC and others) without updating entire modules (more cost-effective), but we might get funding to completely overhaul the DLAC courses in FY19. If that's the case, one or both of the DLAC courses would be completely updated, including the satellite portions. Additional GOES 16 training is being developed at COMET that will include specific portions for aviation, marine, and fire weather. Those, I believe, are in relatively early stages.

Scott may be able to provide more on this than I can, but the initial GOES 16 training was required of all forecasters OUTSIDE the aviation program but that decision would have been made outside the aviation branch and prior to me coming into aviation. *Scott, if you don't have that info, I can find it through other sources - just let me know.*

Regionally, there might be requirements that I'm not currently aware of. Again, Scott probably knows most, if not all, of these based on his longevity with WRH. Let me know if you need me to poll the other RAMs/SSD Chiefs for their individual regional requirements on satellite training.

And then there are the national centers. I'd have to do some digging there as well as I don't know their training protocols/requirements. Let me know if you need that info and I'll get started.

Lora

On Fri, May 18, 2018 at 9:01 AM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Lora,

Thanks for the information. Yeah, I know the GOES-16/S/17 is likely new stuff too... so what is required at this point will be the "factual" stuff I'll need for my report. I saw Amanda's training from 10/2017 on the GOES-16 dataset and it was really good, but no examples of aviation icing datasets... and makes sense because those can be harder to come by...

... but that is where we/I come in, as in this case and couple other icing cases I've picked up with this GOES-16 data, 100% once these reports go out or the data is released we could share the information with AWC/CWSU and COMET folks to use for case studies and training. I might even be able to get some money to travel out to boulder to meet with COMET or to Kansas City/AWC to share data/lessons learned.

Thanks for the information!

Paul

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 8:40 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: required training for AWC for aviation icing...

Paul,

Initial response from AWC on the GOES 16 training. I'll forward more when I get it. But let me know if you have any questions about what Deb provided below.

Lora

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, May 18, 2018 at 8:25 AM
Subject: Re: required training for AWC for aviation icing...
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

Lora,

Our staff went through the required GOES-16 training that all of the NWS did. Outside of that, we haven't required any. Amanda Terborg, our satellite specialist, works in implement new satellite imagery into operations and then sends

information to that staff on how to use the imagery. None of this is required though. I asked Amanda if AWC forecast ops has access to all the GOES-16 imagery, but I haven't heard back from her yet.

Most of the training our forecasters go through with respect to icing/turbulence is on the job training and short seminars that we give in-house. We conducted a short seminar in April focusing on turbulence. We have not conducted one on icing yet. It probably wouldn't help do conduct one on icing at this time since there isn't much to forecast right now. The best time to do this would be in the fall.

Let me know if you need more information.

Deb

I

On Thu, May 17, 2018 at 12:46 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Deb, Bruce,

Below is an information request from NTSB regarding GOES 16 training for AWC forecasters. Bruce, I went ahead and copied you since you probably have good knowledge of the subject from your previous post.

By directive, there are only 4 courses required of NWS forecasters and none of them are any type of satellite training. So, anything required of AWC would have to come from management on-site.

From NTSB:

I was curious

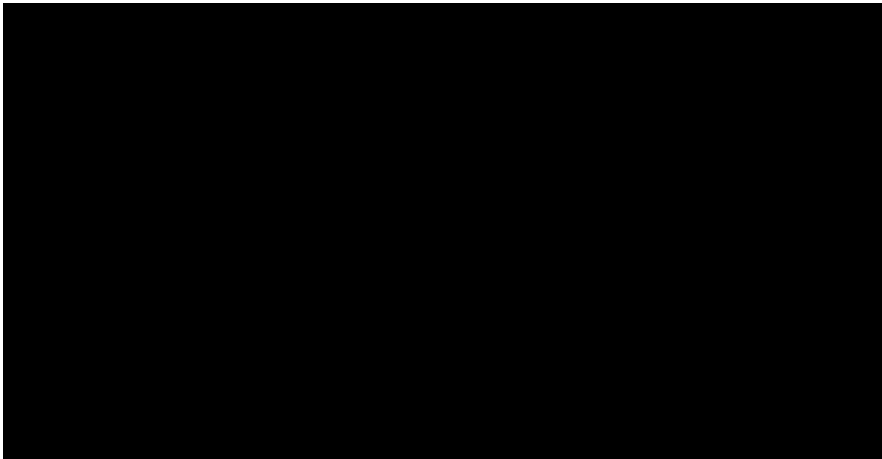
what the required training for the AWC forecaster is as far as GOES-R/16/17 imagery? Also, what is their required training as far as aviation icing? Do they have to take certain COMET courses? Is there a particular list of courses and things they have to take?

Also, does AWC have access to all the GOES-16/R imagery currently and what date did they get full access?

Thanks for any info you can provide for this request!

Thanks,

Lora



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, May 17, 2018 at 1:40 PM
Subject: required training for AWC for aviation icing...
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

Hi Lora,

Hope your Thursday is going well!

I'm working on this Elko, NV, accident with Scott Birch. He has been super helpful in determining what is required GOES-R/16/17 training for western region and CWSUs therein....

I was curious

what the required training for the AWC forecaster is as far as GOES-R/16/17 imagery? Also, what is their required training as far as aviation icing? Do they have to take certain COMET courses? Is there a particular list of courses and things they have to take?

Also, does AWC have access to all the GOES-16/R imagery currently and what date did they get full access?

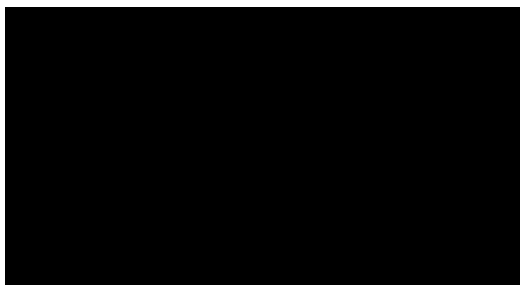
Thank you!

Paul

Paul Suffern

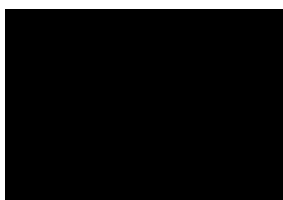
Senior Meteorologist, National Transportation Safety Board

Operational Factors Division (AS-30)



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