

Weather Study – Attachment 1

Correspondence with a maintainer of the Automated Weather Observing System at Angel Fire Airport.

METEOROLOGY

WPR20FA008

*Submitted by: Mike Richards
NTSB, AS-30*

Richards Michael

From: York Technical Resources <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 2:15 PM
To: Richards Michael
Subject: Re: METAR Weather for Angel Fire Airport

Yes, that is correct on the broadcast. With the Density Altitude calculation report.

On Wed, Oct 23, 2019 at 10:14 AM Richards Michael [REDACTED] wrote:

Thanks Phil. To be clear, the AWOS broadcasts new information on VHF every minute, and if DA is 1000' or more above the highest point above the runway it will be broadcast with the observation on VHF, correct?

From: York Technical Resources <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 11:11
To: Richards Michael [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: METAR Weather for Angel Fire Airport

Hi Michael

The AWOS it self stores a 20 minute METAR "snapshot" The 5 minute data I obtain was from DBT / Vaisala. One minute data is not available.

AWOS updates are once per minute.

Wind Speed and direction are 2 minute average updated every 5 seconds. This is an FAA Wind Algorithm in the AWOS.

Density Altitude (a derived value) is reported when the Temperature, Humidity and local Barometric air pressure, by calculation, is 1000 feet or more above the highest point of the runway at the airport.

Phil [REDACTED]

On Wed, Oct 23, 2019 at 9:52 AM Richards Michael <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thanks Andrew.

Hello Mr. York. Thank you for getting us these data. Just a few questions if you are able to answer, or are able to put us in touch with the right people who could. Regarding the AXX AWOS...

- Is there no 1-minute data available?

- How often does this machine make a new broadcast of new weather information via VHF?

- Does this machine broadcast Density Altitude on VHF? If so, what is criteria for it to be included in the broadcast (or is it always broadcast even if it is the same as field elevation)?

Thanks very much for any help you can provide.

Mike

Mike Richards

Aviation Safety Investigator - Senior Meteorologist

Operational Factors Division

National Transportation Safety Board

[REDACTED]

+1 [REDACTED]

From: Swick Andrew <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 18:33
To: Richards Michael [REDACTED]
Cc: York Technical Resources <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: METAR Weather for Angel Fire Airport

Phil stated that his email to you was kicked back, so I will forward.

Andrew L. Swick

Aviation Accident Investigator

National Transportation Safety Board

Western Pacific Region

Phoenix, Arizona

Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]

From: York Technical Resources <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 11:24 AM
To: [REDACTED] Swick Andrew <[REDACTED]>
Subject: METAR Weather for Angel Fire Airport

Micheal & Andrew

I contacted DBT / Vaisala in Minneapolis and Scott Pless was able to obtain 5 minute METAR's from the AXX AWOS. I have reduced the attachment to one hour before and one hour after.

If you require more reports I have the day before and after from Scott at DBT

Philip York

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