

# Weather Message

Release Notes V3.6

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Version 3.6 released 5-7-2010

## All Programs

1. The upgrade installer now backs up all of the \*.dat files to the directory Backup inside the WxMesgNet directory. This will allow users to restore these files if they are overwritten accidentally.
2. Added a new manifest entry to identify the programs as compatible with Windows Vista and Windows 7.
3. Optimized for default culture "en-US".
4. Optimized native calls.
5. Updated the tcp/ip components to the latest build.

## Weather Message Server

1. The VTEC Action descriptions are now located in the file VTAction.dat. This allows users to customize the descriptions.
2. The short message routine will now set the \$vEventStart\$, \$vEventStart24\$, \$Start\$, and \$Start24\$ variables to the word "now" when the vtec event start time is zero. A zero start time indicates that the event has already started.
3. Clicking on the setup option on Windows Vista and Windows 7 will now launch the setup program properly.
4. Optimized the product lookup routine.
5. Added an automatic server discovery routine. The server will listen to UDP broadcasts on port 9501.
6. Added logic to decode the TIME...MOT...LOC line.
7. Added logic to decode the WIND...HAIL line. This line only appears in SVR and SVS products issued by the Central Region after March 1<sup>st</sup>.
8. Added the TIME...MOT...LOC data to the data sent to the clients. Version 3.6 of WxMap will now require a 3.6 server to operate properly.
9. Added logic to alarm the wind and hail settings.
10. The routine that checks for duplicate binary/graphic files was using local time instead of UTC. It will now catch duplicate binary/graphic files when ingesting from

the serial and internet EMWIN data streams.

11. Changes to optimize the alarm looping mechanism.
12. Removed integer overflow checks.
13. Changed validation routines to use culture 1033. This corrects an issue with a computer set to a region other than the United States.
14. Added some synchronization code to the WxController pipe write routines.
15. The \$vProduct\$ variable will be blank for VTEC Product type O (operational). This will allow the \$vProduct\$ to be used for the message description. It will help users that want to see "Test" in the description for test products, without seeing "Operational" on all operational products.
16. Optimized the email, fax and paging tables.

## Weather Message Setup

1. The Service Providers window will now enable the user name field when Http Post or Http Get is selected.
2. The Service Providers window will no long display the password in readable text.
3. The Ingest Engines option names have been changed to show Emwin Serial and Emwin Internet. Added the Emwin So/De option to support the software demodulator ingest engine.
4. Added a new manifest entry to prevent Windows 7 from complaining about the program not being installed properly.
5. The Email options window will now allow you to specify secure connection and authentication methods. The SSL Required field supports the options; No, Auto, Implicit and Explicit. The authentication Method field supports the options; Password, CRAM and NTLM.
6. The Option's Product tab now has an option to log bad products. This option is enabled by default. Any product received with defective information will be logged.
7. The Alarm Setup window now displays the following text below the Set VTEC button: Not VTEC (if the product is not a VTEC product), VTEC Not Set (if VTEC has not been enabled), and VTEC Set (if VTEC has been enabled).
8. The VTEC selection screen will now load the default settings based on the product identifier. A new data file, VtCross.dat, contains the cross reference information for AWIPS identifiers to VTEC phenomena.
9. Optimized the product lookup routine.

10. Added WFO identifier SPN for Spanish products.
11. The fifth field in the product.dat file will now be a bit flag field to indicate information about the product. The bits are read right to left. Here are the definitions:
  - Bit 1 = product contains both C and Z coding (not implemented)
  - Bit 2 = product as LAT...LON line
  - Bit 3 = product as TIME...MOT...LOC line
  - Bit 4 = product as WIND...HAIL line
  - Bit 5 = product as HVTECThe numeric values for the bits are 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, etc. You add the values together to get the resulting value for use in column 5 of product.dat. For example, the TOR product has LAT...LON and TIME...MOT...LOC; you add 2 and 4 to get the value 6.
12. Added a button to the Alarm Tab to set alarm criteria for Wind Speed and Hail Size. This option is for SVR and SVS products. This option should only be used for NWS Central Region offices. It will not be used in other offices this year.
13. The validation logic will now ask users if they want to continue saving an alarm when a potential error is reported.
14. The Set VTEC, Set Area, and Set Wind buttons on the Alarm Tab will now change their background color to indicate the status of the option. If the background color is light gray, the option is not available for the entered product. If the background is white, the option is available, but not set. If the background color is light green, the option is set. The text that appeared below these buttons has been removed.
15. Added new short message variables for wind speed, \$WindSpeed\$, and hail size, \$HailSize\$.
16. The Email Group setup screen now has an @ button that will launch a list of cell phone provider formats.
17. If HVTEC options are entered, the validation routine will issue a warning message if the product is not normally coded with HVTEC.
18. The Paging Services setup now supports a simple TCP paging service. The program will connect to a specified tcp/ip address and port. It will send the group name followed by the message.
19. Added support for VTEC phenomena Rip Currents. Phenomena code RP was added to the VtPhenom.dat file.
20. Changed the default description of these products:
  - CLI - Climate Report Daily
  - CLM - Climate Report Monthly
  - NPW – Non-Precipitation Message
  - WSW – Winter Storm Message
21. The program will now ask the user to elevate to administrator if they click the services tab

22. The VTEC setup screen now supports Product type “L” for local testing. The “L” Product type will be translated into the text “System Test”. This will give users that want to generate test messages the ability include “System Test” in the short message description. Users will need to add the \$vProduct\$ variable to the VTEC Message product specification.
23. Add the new subject line variable \$Message\$. This variable can be used to place the body text into the subject line. This can be used for Facebook updates.
24. The Group Header and Trailer will now be applied to short messages.
25. The VTEC setup screen will now recognize the WR? special prefixes and load their associated phenomena.
26. The Alarm setup window will no longer gray out the Set VTEC button for WR? special prefixes.

## **WxPost**

1. Changed the Http Post and Http Get routines to send the user name and password using basic authentication.
2. The Send Using Bcc option will now send all of the email addresses using blind carbon copy. The To address will be shown as undisclosed recipients.
3. Changed the SNPP routines to determine if the server supports level 2 commands.

## **WxEmwin**

1. Clicking on the Software Demodulator “Launch Control Panel” on Windows Vista and Windows 7 will now launch the control panel with administrator privileges.
2. Changes to force the internet ingest routines to empty the internal buffer when version 2 packets are in the buffer.
3. When the internet ingest auto-update servers option is unchecked, the program will no longer add the default servers to the internal server list. This will allow the user to completely control the available servers list by changing the WxSvrus.txt and WxSatus.txt files.
4. Removed references to WxIngest and WxByte from the backup notification messages.
5. Changed validation routines to use culture 1033. This corrects an issue with a computer set to a region other than the United States.
6. Changed the routines that validate the EMWIN header to use a different function for validating integers. This should have some performance improvements and address an error reported by one user.
7. Added additional log information when the serial ingest routine switches to a

backup port or internet ingest.

8. Increased the number of packets that need to be received before checking for a high error rate.
9. When internet ingest is enabled, the internet ingest backup options on the Serial Ingest and Software Demod tabs are disabled and unchecked.
10. The internet ingest routines now require a minimum number of byte blaster servers. If the connected server list is smaller than the minimum, the program resets the server list.
11. Added the ability to log bad block information in the log file. This option is located in Setup under the Common tab.
12. Changed the software demodulator ingest reconnect routine to wait a maximum of 25 seconds between connections.
13. Changed the internet ingest and software demodulator ingest routines to report connection aborts to their respective log files.
14. The Internet Ingest Disconnect button will now disable itself while it is waiting for the connection to disconnect. Clicking the button multiple times in a row would cause the program to become unstable.
15. The Internet Ingest now reports the error rate to WxBBSrvr.

## **WxWW2000**

1. Optimized the WFO lookup routine.
2. Changed the processing logic to deal with different line endings crCrLf and crLf.
3. Switching from Internet to Serial ingest will now update the status windows properly.
4. Added some code to detect a user disconnect from the Internet while the connection is still in progress.

## **WxPort**

1. Optimized the WFO lookup routine.

## **WxMap**

1. If the Server Address field is left blank, the program will attempt to discover the address and port of the Weather Message server.
2. Revised the polygon products to include "SAW,SWO,SPS,AWW,SPE".
3. Updated the latitude/longitude distance calculation routine to catch an arithmetic

overflow.

4. Corrected a problem with the Show in Task Bar option.

## **WxMcli**

1. If the Server Address field is left blank, the program will attempt to discover the address and port of the Weather Message server.
2. Corrected a problem with the Show in Task Bar option.

## **WxImage**

1. Updated the default image file with the new graphics now being transmitted.

## **WxLoader**

1. Added an option to the File menu to view the log file.
2. If the Server Address field is left blank, the program will attempt to discover the address and port of the Weather Message server.
3. The DebugLd.txt file will now contain a copy of text generated for a task.
4. The internal text storage routine has been modified to address an issue with receiving new products that contain the same text, but have different product identifiers.

## **WxFtp**

1. Corrected an exception that occurred when resolving a domain name.

## **WxController**

1. Clicking on the setup option on Windows Vista and Windows 7 will now launch the setup program properly.

## **WxSched**

1. Add an option to view the scheduler log file, SchedLog.txt.
2. Added the ability to name a schedule. This will allow them to be easily identified in the schedule grid.

## **WxUtils**

1. Change the registration system to compare dates based on UTC.