

# Weather Message

Release Notes V3.0

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Version 3.0 released 3-4-2007

## All Programs

1. Enabled F1 help key in each program.

## Weather Message Server

1. The main screen has been revised to include more status information. Some of the original debug windows have been removed in favor of the status boxes.
2. The X10, Printing and Image Communications subsystems are now integrated in WxMesgServer.exe and are no longer support dlls.
3. A number of changes to support multiple threads. This allows several operations to run at the same time.
4. Added support for 64 bit operating systems.
5. The Connections status screen can now be resized.
6. The Connections status screen now has a refresh button.
7. The program now keeps internal statistics. These include files processed, client connection requests, data alerts, user file requests, alarms by type – archive, client, email, exe programs, fax, image, pager, print and x10. These statistics are written to the log file at 23:59:59 each day and reset for the next day.
8. Added support for the short message variable \$Now\$.
9. Corrected a problem that prevented the \$Location\$ variable from working.
10. The server print option will now print graphics.
11. Pressing the control-u key combination will cause a purge cycle to be started.
12. Now decodes the HVTEC line.
13. Changed the PVTEC storage routine to optimize memory usage.
14. Updated to implement the new FTP ingest options.
15. Changed the decode routine to test the wmo identifier for invalid characters.
16. Added support for the PAA segmented indicator for use in the short message \$Amended\$

variable.

17. When alarming to the county level and specifying vtec, the server will only send the matching vtec lines to the map client.

## Weather Message Setup

1. The Text Match function has been changed to support wildcards. To match the text "TORNADO", you will need to enter "\*\*TORNADO\*". This approach allows for more flexibility. It supports ? to match Any single character, \* to match Zero or more characters, # to match Any single digit (0–9), [charlist] to match Any single character in charlist and [!charlist] to match Any single character not in charlist.
2. The Archive options have been changed. The program will no longer automatically create a file name when a path is entered like "c:\weather\#". You must now enter "c:\weather\\${FileName}\${Expire}\${FileExt\$". The \${FileName\$ variable inserts the base file name. The \${FileExt\$ inserts the file extension including the "." Period symbol. The \${Expire\$ or \${Issue\$ variables can be used to insert the expiration or issue date/time. These changes make the archive options the same whether using the local archive or web/ftp based archive option.
3. The program will now display an error message if it cannot instruct Weather Message Server to reload the alarms when the Save button is clicked.
4. The Archive/Html/Exe tab has been changed to Archive/Html/Exe/Print. Weather Message Server can now print products. A print option box was added to this tab. You can now select No, Selected, Selected No Head, Full, and Full No Head. This changes does not effect printing in the client.
5. Added the short message variable \${Lines:x,y\$. This variable can be used to include a fixed number of lines from a message. X is the line number in the message to start and Y is the number of lines to include. For example, "\${Lines:10,5\$". This would include lines 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 in the resulting short message.
6. The Ingest Engine option now allows you to select both WxIngest and WxByte. These programs can now run at the same time.
7. The Support Setup menu now has a printer option. This option will allow you to select the default printer and font.
8. The configuration files have been changed to XML format. There are several free XML Viewers that can be used to manually update the files. One is XML Viewer located at <http://mindfusion.org/product1.html>.
9. The Email Options window has two new options, Failure Retries and Retry Minutes. Set Failure Retries to the number of attempts to send a failed email. A setting of 2 would indicate that the system would attempt to send the message 3 times before failing. Set Retry Minutes to the number of minutes to wait before attempting to resend the email. The minimum value is 2 minutes.
10. The Pager Services setup screen now has support for http get. This enables support for

services like Group2Call.

11. Most of the screens now support resizing. They have not been configured to remember the new size.
12. The WxWords menu option no longer uses notepad. A new window has been added to handle changes to WxWords.dat.
13. Added the short message variable \$Now\$ to capture the now statement from the NOW product.
14. Added the \$Location\$ variable to capture text after the LOCATION... line.
15. The Options screen now has two tabs, General and Protocol. The Protocol tab has a new option to set FTP, HTTP, and Proxy settings globally for all Weather Message programs. The Firewall Proxy tab has a button to detect the proxy settings.
16. The Support Setup, Options window now has a tab for purge options. The purge hours on the main setup window has been moved to the Purge tab. It is now named "Global Purge Time". A new purge option has been added "Global Purge Count". The Global Purge Count allows you specify the minimum number of products to keep on file after the "Global Purge Time" as elapsed.
17. A new purge option has been added to the Support Setup, Options, Purge tab. A grid has been added to allow users to specify purge options by product name. Enter the 6 or 8 character product identifier; purge time in hours and product count. The product identifier can contain wild cards.
18. Moved the Collectives - Support Menu window to a tab on the Options window.
19. Added a FTP Ingest tab to the Options Window. This tab will allow you to instruct Weather Message Server to automatically download the latest 3-hour text file when the program first starts. This will help people that use the program only during weather events. The tab also has an option to download the ftp files on a defined interval. (This provides yet another redundancy mechanism to the software.) When the ftp interval is selected, the program will download the file two minutes after the interval. This insures that the file has been updated on the ftp server.
20. The VTEC window now has a tab for Primary VTEC and Hydrologic VTEC.
21. The Hydrologic VTEC tab allows you to set an alarm for site identifier and flood severity.
22. Added new short message variables for HVTEC.
  - \$HvSiteId\$ - Site Identifier
  - \$HvSeverity\$ - Flood Severity
  - \$HvCause\$ - Cause
  - \$HvBegin\$ - Event Beginning Time AM/PM
  - \$HvBegin24\$ - Event Beginning Time 24 hour
  - \$HvCrest\$ - Crest Time AM/PM
  - \$HvCrest24\$ - Crest Time 24 hour
  - \$HvEnd\$ - Event Ending Time AM/PM

\$HvEnd24\$ - Event Ending Time 24 hour

23. Added 2 additional special prefixes WRP, WRQ.

24. The Short Message menu option has been replaced with Product Specifications. You can now setup short messages by product. If you enter TOR, the program will use the definition for TOR. You can also include a WFO, for example entering TORBMX, will setup a short message for that product and WFO. The User Defined Start and Stop variables are also by product. The program will honor the group short message first, then search for a matching product specification. If it does not find either, it will then use the default.

25. Added new short message variables for HVTEC, \$HvSiteDesc\$ - Site Description.

26. Added the short message variable \$Bullet\$. This variable will capture all lines that begin with "\*" until a blank line is encountered.

## **WxByte**

1. The program now creates the log file WiLogs.txt, and the received files log WiFiles.txt. Since WxByte and WxIngest can now run at the same time, they need their own log files.
2. The default setting for log received files is now true.
3. Replaced the processing timer routine with an event driven routine. This will allow the program to easily handle faster data streams. It also lowers the CPU cycles consumed. As a side effect, the icon in the task bar will rotate slower.
4. Added a block monitor image. This will allow you to monitor the received blocks. To activate the block monitor click on the "Receiving: file name" label. Click the receiving file name label again to toggle back to the received statistics.
5. Added an option to turn off data decryption when using a fixed address. This should allow WxByte to be used with the EMWIN software receiver.
6. When the program cannot connect to a server, a status message is display above the system tray icon.

## **WxIngest**

1. Now raises the DTR signal when the port is opened.
2. Changed the location and size of the green, good packet, image.
3. The program now creates the log file WsLogs.txt, and the received files log WsFiles.txt. Since WxIngest and WxByte can now run at the same time, they need their own log files.
4. The default setting for log received files is now true.
5. Added a block monitor image. This will allow you to monitor the received blocks. To activate the block monitor click on the green or red led. Click the led again to toggle back

to the received statistics.

6. When a data loss occurs, a status message is displayed above the system tray icon.

## **WxPort**

1. The default setting for log received files is now true.
2. The setup window now has the option "Global Ingest Paths". The default for this option is true or checked. Un-checking this option, disconnects the ingest paths from the global paths. This allows you to specify ingest paths that differ from the other ingest programs that are using global ingest paths.

## **WxWW2000**

1. The default setting for log received files is now true.
2. The setup window now has the option "Global Ingest Paths". The default for this option is true or checked. Un-checking this option, disconnects the ingest paths from the global paths. This allows you to specify ingest paths that differ from the other ingest programs that are using global ingest paths.
3. Setup window now has the option "Name by AWIPS". When this option is checked, the program will name the received files using the AWIPS identifier in the message, followed by the state of the issuing station. When the option is unchecked, the files are named after the first 3 characters of the AWIPS identifier followed by the originating station's 3 character identifier, followed by the state abbreviation.
4. Replaced the processing timer routine with an event driven routine. This will allow the program to process the internet stream as fast as data is sent. As a side effect, the icon in the task bar will rotate slower.
5. Added last received time to the main window. This will allow users to monitor the times products are received.

## **WxMap**

1. The map legend is now resizable and will allow a user to scroll the list.
2. The Views menu option will now ask for a name to associate with the view. This name is displayed in the View menu.
3. The View menu can now store 4 views.
4. The Setup, Image Options tab has been redesigned. The format for entering ftp information has now been broken down into fields. The old cryptic format is not longer used.
5. The Map, Active Alarms screen will now allow you to expire a product. Right click on the product that you want to expire and select Expire Product.

6. The Other Products grid now has an up and down button to move products up and down in the list. Their position in the list determines their priority.
7. The Other Products grid now allows you to press the delete key to delete an entry.
8. If the program pops up the map, it will wake up the monitor if it has entered the sleep mode.
9. Added a comment field on the landmark setup screen.

## **WxMcli**

1. The image viewer menu option now has 10 pre-defined image viewers. Each viewer will remember the last image displayed and the location of the viewer on the screen.
2. The product list now has a right click menu. This menu will allow you to filter for text product, graphic products or enter a wild card. It also allows you to split the product list into two lists. If the split option is selected, the top list contains the text products and the bottom list the graphic products.
3. When the program exists, it will now remember the active alarms and the items in the product list.
4. The main screen has a tab for the received messages and alarms.
5. A setup option has been added to set the opacity of the product list. This option can be set from 0 to 100 to make the product list transparent.
6. The quick list now can now contain an unlimited number of items.
7. A setup option has been added to set the number of items displayed in the product list.
8. If the program pops up the client, it will wake up the monitor if it has entered the sleep mode.

## **WxLoader**

1. Added firewall options.
2. Program rewritten to take advantage of VTEC. The operation of the program is similar, however, the changes will require a review the files in the tasks to be changed. The program connects as a map client to the server.
3. Added a Product Type option to the tasks. This option allows you to select the type of product identifiers entered. Options are AWIPS / VTEC, AWIPS or VTEC.

## **WxRadar**

1. The Firewall window now updates the global firewall values.

2. The program now uses the global firewall values.
3. Existing users will have to reset the firewall values.
4. Changed the way the program internally loads the ingest paths.
5. The retrieve interval can now be set to 4 minutes.
6. Added the following national radars:
  - National Mosaic
  - Pacific Northwest Sector
  - Northern Rockies Sector
  - Upper Mississippi Valley Sector
  - Central Great Lakes Sector
  - Northeast Sector
  - Southeast Sector
  - South Mississippi Valley Sector
  - Southern Plains Sector
  - Southern Rockies Sector
  - Pacific Southwest Sector

## **WxScheduler**

1. The Firewall window now updates the global firewall values.
2. The program now uses the global firewall values.
3. Existing users will have to reset the firewall values.

## **WxFtp**

1. The FTP and HTTP archive and retrieve operations now use the global firewall and proxy settings.

## **WxPost**

1. Made changes to correct a problem with sending graphic products. The Mime content header was not correct.
2. Added retry capability to the email subsystem.
3. Changes to the email routine to activate the priority flag in Outlook Express when the priority option is enabled.
4. Corrected a problem with using the parse option to replace a string with a comma. Entering the line word',' will now replace word with a comma.
5. Enabling the parse option will no longer automatically remove carriage return, line feed characters from the end of each line. In order to remove these characters, WxWords needs to contain the line "\n, ". Note: Don't include the quotes. The \n string will match any carriage return line feed characters, which can be replaced with nothing or any other

character string, include a blank space. Previous versions automatically removed carriage return line feed characters with one blank space.

6. Changes to support http get.
7. The HTTP post and get paging operations now use the global firewall and proxy settings.