

AWIPS Build OB4 D2D software release notes

These are changes from Build OB3.

Note: These are working notes on FSL's part of the Build OB4 work. Some items may be modified or removed before OB4 hits the field. Official Release Notes will be posted at the NWS AWIPS site once the field release is ready.

Infrastructure

- The awipsusr/textdemo logins are replaced by individual user accounts. You now log in under your own name.
- Since as2 no longer runs any routine processes, the as2 column in the process monitor has been removed

Graphics/image workstation

New features

- Non-FSL work that affects the UI:
 - National Ice Center ice concentration grids and global sea surface temperature grids are added to the Volume Browser. The ice grids are available on the CONUS-area 218 grid, and on the 242 grid for Alaska. (The 218 grid set will be available by default. Sites needing the 242 grid will use setup instructions provided by NGIT.) (SEC)
 - Volume Browser *Fields* now includes Parcel LI for the 12km Eta. The menu entry is under Sfc/2D -> Convective. (SEC)
 - Full Eta12 runs to 84 hours are now available. ECMWF grids are extended from 168 hours to 240 hours. Vertical velocity at 850, 700, and 500 is added to the UKMet grids. (SEC)
 - For IFPS support, DGEX grids (Downscaled GFS and Eta Extension; 12km eta to 192 hours) are now being ingested. (SEC) [added with OB3.2 patch]
 - Eleven additional SBN-delivered radar products are now available. These include ET; OHP; SRM 1.5, 2.4, 3.4; V 1.5; VWP; Z 0.5 res1, 1.5, 2.4, and 3.4. (For reference, the original ten are CZ, DPA, FTM, GSM, RCM, SRM 0.5, STP, V 0.5, VIL, and Z 0.5.) (NGIT) [added with OB3.2 patch]
 - SCAN now includes a mesocyclone display (similar to the SCAN Storm Cell Table), including time-height trends. (MDL)
 - FFMP now includes a Point Data Control function. (MDL)

- LSR (MDL):
 - handling of cities is improved so that more important locations appear in the list
 - can now take a UTC input, in addition to AM/PM/24h local time
- SAFESEAS (MDL):
 - the trend is expanded to 24 hours
 - now monitors swells
 - includes your customized thresholds
- WWA is now "self-contained;" that is, the finished product is created within WWA, without final editing in a text workstation window.
- The Marine Zones map is replaced by a set of three in a submenu: Coastal Zones, Offshore Zones, and High Seas Zones. (SEC) Note: "Coastal Zones" is the old Marine Zones set. Each office will select one of the three sets of zones for WWA and SAFESEAS use.

Improvements

- Radar items:
 - New radar products include Tornado Rapid Update (TRU) and Mesocyclone Detection Algorithm (DMD).
 - A new means of navigating all-tilts displays includes using the shift key with the up/down arrows on the keypad to move vertically within the volume. The left-right keys still move in time, and unshifted up/down changes loop speed.
- WarnGen items:
 - The initial WarnGen track now responds to SRM settings in the Radar Display Controls. That is, it will use STI motion or a custom motion, if either has been set in the Controls dialog. (If you select Storm Motion from WarnGen Track, which represents circular reasoning, the latest STI is used, if it's been updated within 24 hours.)
- Product Maker items:

Remaining bugs

Our old list of not-quite-what-we-want features...

- The default load mode (Valid Time Sequence or Latest Model Run) is restored after a swap, instead of whatever mode you had set when that information was in the large pane.
- Once you're in 4-panel mode, you stay there until explicitly **C**learing the screen. If you select products on a different scale, you'll get the same thing loaded in each panel.
- Samples on skewT charts include a degree sign in front of K.
- If you turn lat/lon readout on, then bring up a skewT and sample it, you'll get lat/lon info for the previously displayed map (in addition to the chart information that you want). The pop-up correctly does not include the lat/lon toggle button, so you can't turn it off.
- Sounding plots are computing bad wet-bulb zero heights near the surface when there should be no wet-bulb zero crossing.
- The Product Maker provides access to satellite images only on the Northern Hemisphere, CONUS, and Regional scales.

- If you select MSLP as the field in the Product Maker, you must select a(ny) pressure level, in order to display it.
- When as1 fails over to as2, you see a red banner that tells you so, and says that you may need to restart in order to continue to get auto update and product time updates on the menus. In fact, this is not necessarily the case. To minimize the disruption for restarts, you should monitor radar or other frequently-updated products to see if you are getting notification of new products (display or menu update). Only if not should you restart the workstation.
- A torn-away Product Maker Source menu does not respond to scale changes. This can lead to one selecting a model source that is invalid for the scale.
- This is not really a bug, but the way the alert area request application works may be a little confusing.

The alert area request can display/edit only two areas at a time, one Area 1 and one Area 2. They can be for the same radar or, for those sites that have more than one dedicated connection, for different radars. For example, you can use Area 1 for radar A and Area 2 for radar B. However, if you start with Area 1 for radar A and then try to display/edit Area 1 for radar B it won't work; you must first clear the display and select another radar if you want to display/edit another Area 1.

Text workstation

Improvements

- The warning expiration reminder now applies only to SMW, SVR, TOR, FFW, and FLW products. [OB3 patch]
- A change in the data ingest system allows very large text products (>131kbytes or approx 1800 lines) to store without truncation. [SEC]

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