READ ME

This FTP site contains information to help users impacted by the NWS Technical Implementation Notice (TIN) 09-41, Addition of Higher Resolution WSR-88D Products to SBN/NOAAPORT and RPCCDS: Effective February 9, 2010.

We will move the contents from this temporary FTP site to: http://www.roc.noaa.gov/wsr88d/Level_III/Level3Info.aspx the week of 1 February.

Contents:

1. koax.ZV-wmo-102909.tar contains sample 8-bit data for reflectivity and velocity products. See below for more information.
2. d2d-images.tar contains AWIPS images of several products for comparison purposes. See below for more information
3. tin09-41_88d.pdf contains the NWS TIN on this topic

Description of Sample Data - This file contains products to compare: a) 4bit (R/19, R/20, V/25, V/27) vs. 8bit (R/94, V/99) reflectivity and velocity products, b) the additional elevations planned to be collected during VCP12 and 212 (i.e., 0.9 and 1.8 deg elevation), and c) the two velocity quantization modes of the WSR-88D (i.e., 0.5 m/s is used in volume scan 1312Z, and 1.0 m/s is used in 1316Z). The case is from central Oklahoma (morning of 10/29/2009) during a frontal passage with widespread storms, but products were generated to appear as site KOAX (Omaha, NE). For comparison purposes, AWIPS images of several of the products are provided in: d2d-images.tar

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Why is the NWS starting the distribution of high-resolution products?
A: The RPCCDS and SBN/NOAAPort data flows are designed to meet NWS operational requirements, while making these data available to all users. In the case of high-resolution products, centrally collecting and distributing the products will reduce the traffic on the AWIPS WAN.

Q: According to the TIN, it appears the higher resolution of the data concerns the data values themselves and not the spatial resolution of the data values. Or in other words, the higher resolution data will not be the “super-resolution” 250 m radial / 0.5 degree azimuth data. Is that correct?

A: You are correct, high-resolution data is not Super Resolution data. The high-resolution data has 8 data levels versus the 4 data levels of products sent since the start of the program. However, spatial resolution is improved since velocity data at 250m and reflectivity data at 1km resolution will be provided to maximum ranges.

Q: NAQ and NBQ are only available when the radar is in VCP 12 and 212, correct?
A: Yes, this is correct. The elevation identification part of the header is consistent with existing elevation based WSR-88D products (i.e., 0, 1, 2, 3) and the extra angles that VCP 12 and 212 provide are identified by A and B.

Q: Is the storm motion vector included anywhere in the N*U Base Velocity products? I don't see it in the ICD. If it was included then you would effectively be distributing two products at one time (because I could easily generate Storm Relative Velocity from Base Velocity).
A: No, but it is included in the STI/58 product within the Tabular Alphanumeric Block (ref. ICD for RPG to Class 1 User, Table VIII Product Dependent Definition for Tabular Alphanumeric Block, P.3-70).

As of: 1/27/10