



Use of Terminal Forecasts in TFM Planning

One Airline Rep's Perspective

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FPAW Segment 9

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TAF & Wind Impact on ATM

KXYZ 010927Z 0109/0206 24005KT 3/4SM -RADZ OVC004
FM011400 30018G30KT P6SM BKN020
FM020200 32010KT P6SM VCSH OVC050 PROB30 TS

KXYZ = Hub Airport

Wind: 24005KT, 30018G30KT, 32010KT

- Plan: Runway(s) to be used.
- Known: Approx Airport Capacity (arrival/departure rate)
- Known: Volume of Flights Scheduled
- Important Factors: Wx -Wind Values & Direction Shift Timing, Impact calculations - Crosswinds, etc.
- Missing: Winds Above the Surface. Compression Issues.



TAF & Cig/Vis Impact on ATM

KXYZ 010927Z 0109/0206 24005KT 3/4SM -RADZ OVC004
FM011400 30018G30KT P6SM BKN020
FM020200 32010KT P6SM VCSH OVC050 PROB30 TS

Vis & Ceilings: 3/4SM, P6SM & OVC004, BKN020, OVC050

- Plan: Visual or Instrument Approaches
- Known: Airport Capabilities/Limitations
- Known: Operator Capabilities/Limitations
- Important Factors: Timing & Values, Estimated Impact
- Missing: RVR, but can be inferred



TAF & Present Wx Impact on ATM

KXYZ 010927Z 0109/0206 24005KT 3/4SM -RADZ OVC004
FM011400 30018G30KT P6SM BKN020
FM020200 32010KT P6SM VCSH OVC050 PROB30 TS

Present Weather: -RADZ, VCSH, TS

- Plan: Convection at/near airport, Winter Precip at airport
- Known: Approximate impact on air traffic
- Known: Approximate Operator capability
- Important Factors: Timing - Tstrms & Winter Precip
Tstrms in vicinity (VC = 5 to 10nm) ,
Winter Precip - Intensity
- Missing: Tstrm - Beyond 10 nm & Coverage/Location

- TAF is not the only source of Forecast info
- Future Focus for TAF or Other Products
 - All Variables: More detailed timing.
 - Tstrms & Winds: TRACON area