



Friends and Partners of Aviation Weather

Demonstration of On-Site NWS Meteorologist at the Atlanta TRACON (A80)

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Content

- Background
- Atlanta TRACON (A80) weather operations
- Assessment
- Recommendation going forward



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Background

- FAA requested NWS do a demonstration of on-site meteorologists at the New York TRACON
 - ✦ Objective: Determine if their presence could help reduce delay and irrecoverable delays
- NWS provided a plan that included Atlanta
- Staffing did not allow for New York to partake
- Plan was to have formal User Suitability Assessment but this was not funded
 - ✦ Subjective assessment based on feedback from Ops personnel at A80



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Atlanta TRACON Weather Operations

- April 1- June 30
- One met at A80 Monday-Friday with flexible times with anticipated weather
- Laptop for internet access for weather data
- Worked next to the TMC
- Provided scheduled and unscheduled briefs



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Assessment of Weather Operations

- Feedback favorable indicating value was having the meteorologist physically present to provide immediate information as opposed to making phone call
- Forecasts “were not perfect” but helped make TM decisions more informed and quicker
 - ✦ Unclear if this reduced delay
- Time to field predictions were biggest benefit
- Use of FAA Decision Support Tools
- Impossible to do an objective assessment with data collected



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Recommendation Going Forward

- Delay decision on placing NWS meteorologists at key TRACONs
- Perform demonstration at N90 in 2018 and do a formal User Suitability Assessment
- Have plan in place by January 2018



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