Progress in Convective Weather Information

Information Provider Panel – FAA System Operations

Presented to: Friends and Partners of Aviation Weather

By: Jim Ries and Danny Sims, FAA

Date: September 27, 2007



Overview

Provider and User of weather related information

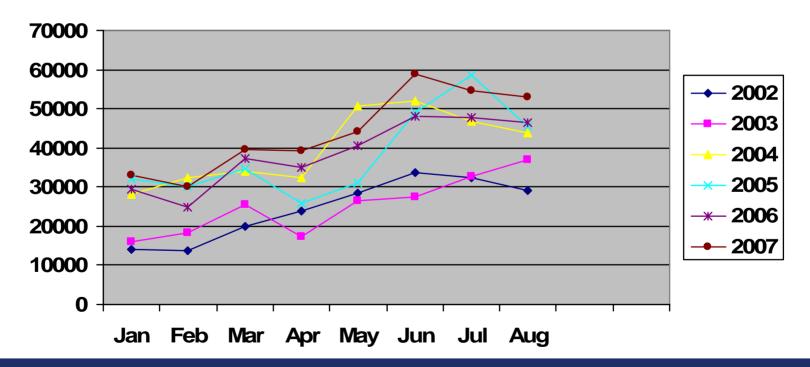
Review

- 2007 delay information
- Route Availability Planning Tool (RAPT) benefits
- Weather Evaluation Team (WET) recommendations
- Convective comparison exercise

Plans

- Corridor Integrated Weather System (CIWS)
- RAPT
- S2K Interest
- Dedicated Northeast forecast

- Total system delays per month 2002-2007
 - 58 78% due to weather



Route Availability Planning Tool (RAPT)

- Integrates CIWS convective weather forecasts and aircraft departure trajectories
- Real-time benefits observations in 2007
 - Early feedback indicates being used to validate decisions made from other sources
 - Users gaining acceptance

Weather Evaluation Team (WET)

- Collaborative Decision Making (CDM) activity
- Requirements for a TRACON weather forecast
 - To include graphical 0-6 hour probabilistic forecasts of area tailored to needs of users
 - Automated with human involvement updated at least every 2 hours
 - Collaboration, consistency, and availability in production process
 - Verification, user feedback, training, concept of use

Convective comparison exercise

- Driven by need for longer term forecasts (> 6 hours)
- Compared:
 - Collaborative Convective Forecast Product (CCFP)
 - Rapid Update Cycle (RUC) Convective Probabilistic Field (RCPF)
 - RUC Simulated Radar Reflectivity
 - North American Meso (NAM) Simulated Radar Reflectivity
- Preliminary results
 - Similarities with CCFP and RCPF
 - Radar reflectivity products often match structure but consistently under-forecast intensity

Plans

Corridor Integrated Weather System (CIWS)

- National expansion (2008)
- Implement at FAA Technical Center (2008-2009)
- Implement into Traffic Flow Management (TFM)
 Modernization (2009-2010)

Plans

RAPT (2008)

- Complete benefits study
- Enhancements to New York capability
- Determine other locations
- Develop traditional 4-corner capability

Plans

- S2K joint FAA industry group
 - Focus on improvements for Northeast in 2008
 - FAA and NWS working on improvement plan
 - November deliverable
- Potential dedicated New York area forecast
 - Based upon WET recommendations