Turbulence Information Provider

NOAA / NWS's Aviation Weather Center (AWC), Kansas City, MO

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• SIGMET

- Primary
- Severe or extreme non-convective turbulence
- Valid 4 hours
- Mainly PIREP driven.
 - Forecasters use various tools (GTG and other models data) as guidance to define area.
 - Forecasters weigh subjective PIREPs in decision process to issue, continue, and cancel.

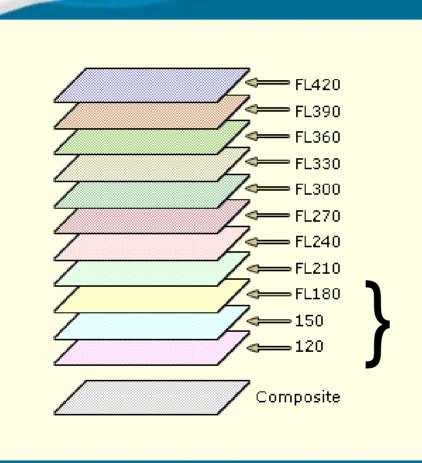
Convective SIGMET:

- Primary
- Severe or Greater turbulence is implied in definition

• AIRMET:

- Primary
- Moderate non-convective turbulence
- 6 hour forecasts (smears)
- Forecasters use PIREPs and suite of model data (RUC, NAM, GFS) indices (e.g., Ellrod), and GTG to define area, issue, update, and cancel.
- 24x7 forecaster quality control
- Verified against available PIREPs

- GTG (Graphical Turbulence Guidance):
 - Restricted & Supplemental
 - Approved for operational use by mets and dispatchers, and supplements AIRMETs and SIGMETs.
 - Produced at AWC
 - RUC model and PIREPs within the last 1 1/2 hours to diagnoses Clear Air Turbulence (CAT) for the RUC forecast times.
 - 0, 3, 6, 9, and 12 hour forecast every 3 hours
 - A product for every 1,000 feet from FL200-450
 - Total of 1,566 GTG products per day



•GTG:

- FL100-FL200 D4 Operational in 3Q CY2006.
- Will increase GTG production to 2,126 products per day

• G-AIRMET:

- 2007
- Primary
- Finer spatial and temporal resolution
 - Both graphic and text.
 - 3,6,9,12 hour graphical snap shots, and 6 hour graphic and text smear.
 - Planning users conference in 2Q CY2006.

