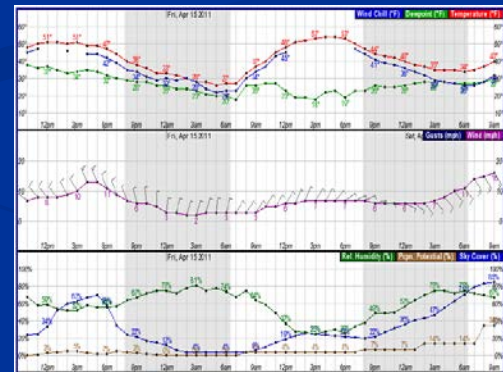
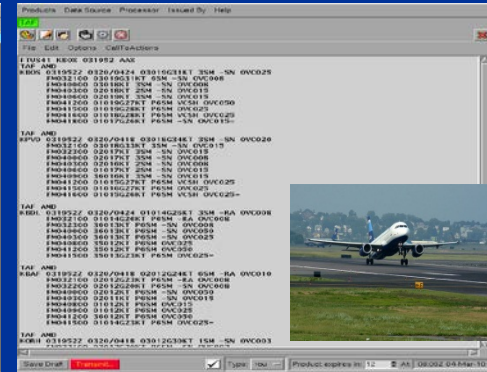
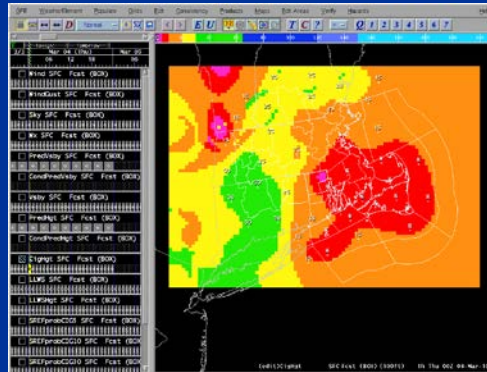
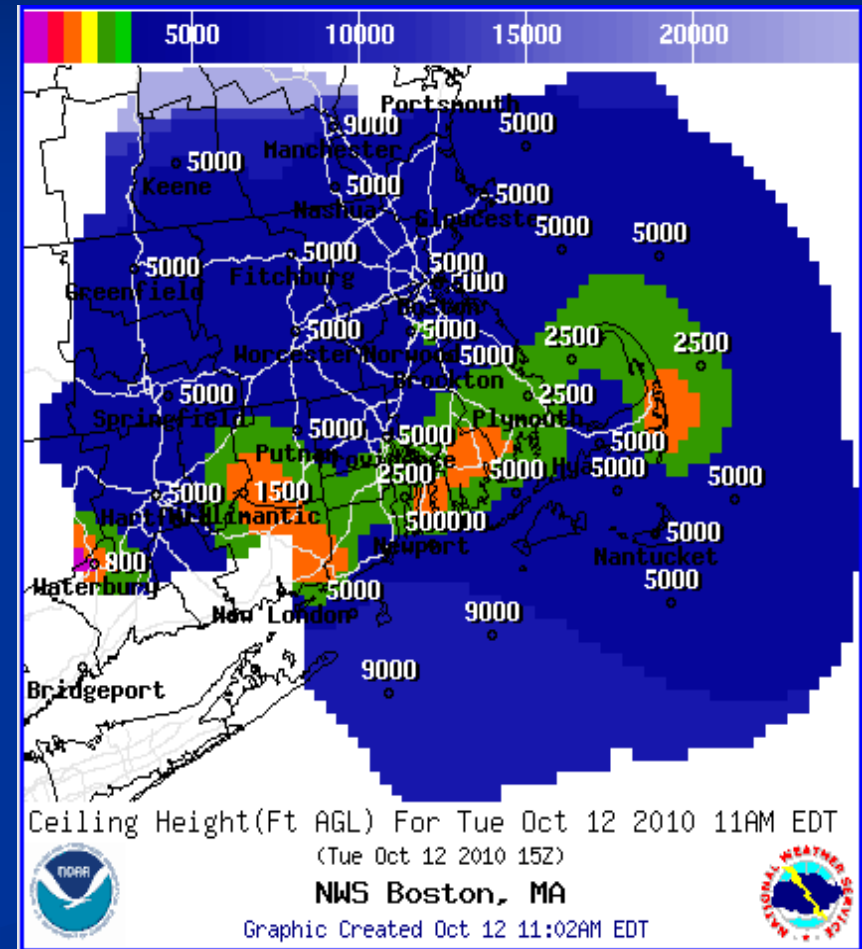


Digital Services for Aviation



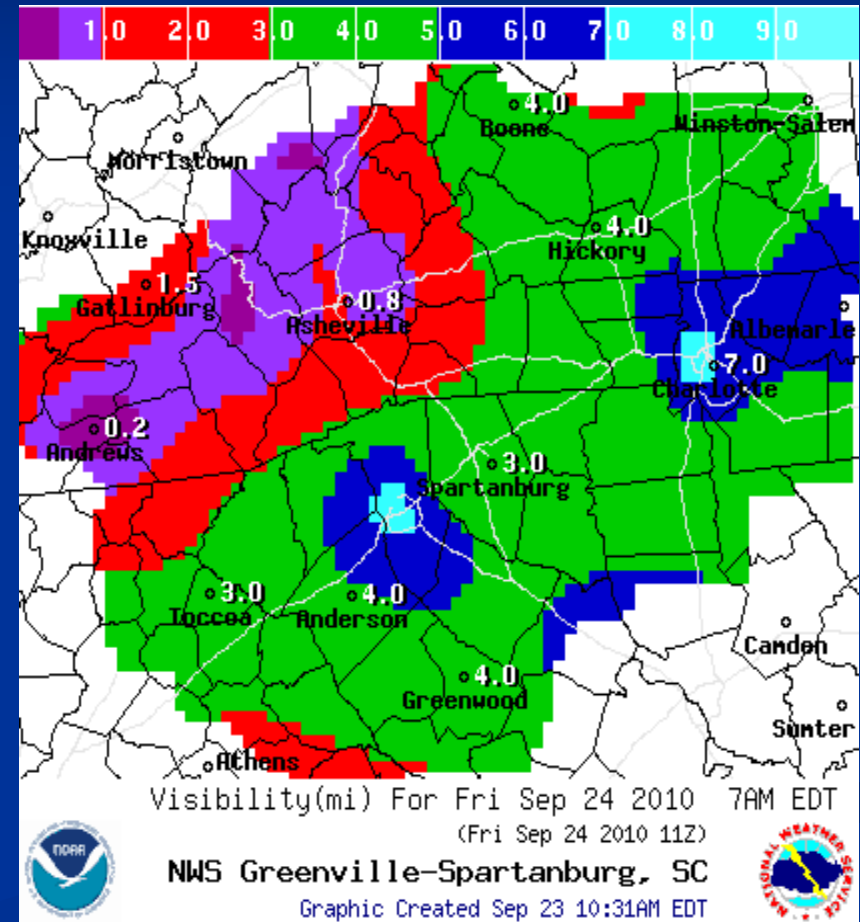
What are Digital Aviation Services

- Adding aviation elements to the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD)
 - Provide hourly graphical forecasts of ceiling and visibility out to 36 hours
- TAFs are generated from the database with forecaster oversight



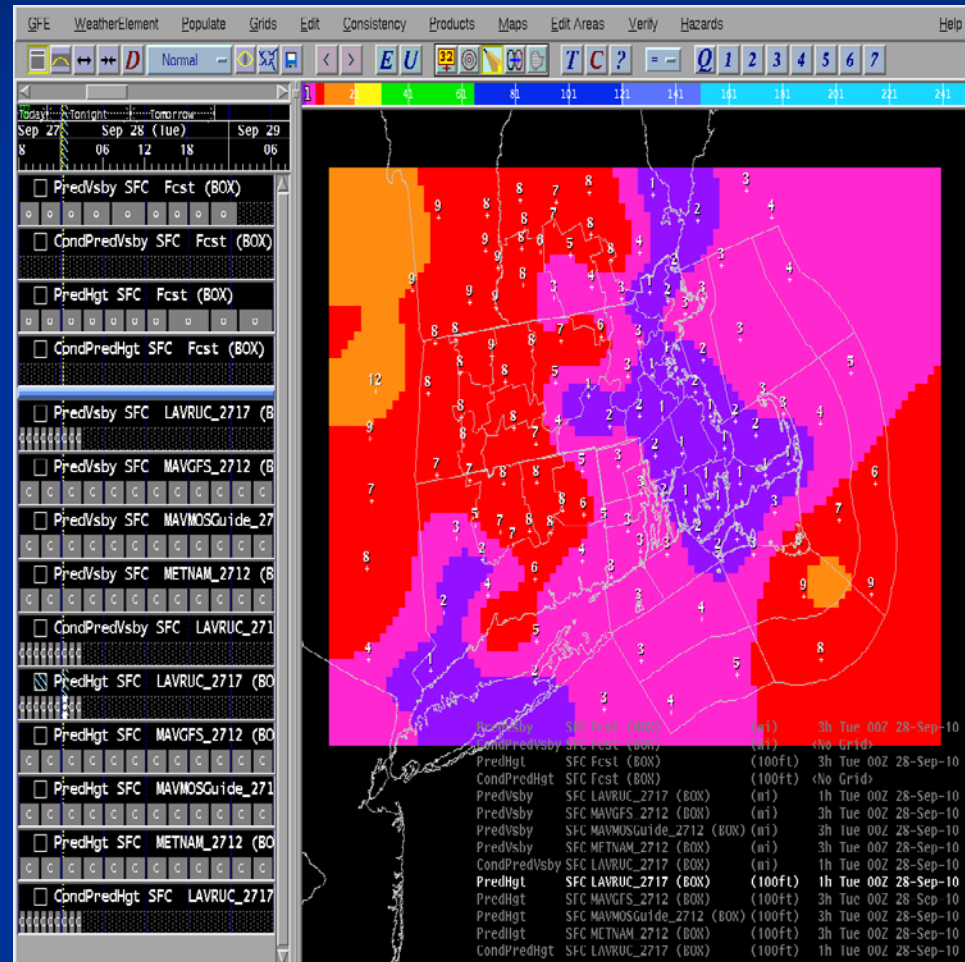
Why Digital Aviation Services?

- Moves toward the NextGen requirements:
 - Digital ceiling and visibility
 - Build a national ceiling and visibility grid to be used by AWC
 - Consistent aviation forecasts, the Single Authoritative Source (SAS) for C&V
- Important guidance tool for medical services, search and rescue, and GA
- Improves NWS forecast consistency with aviation forecasts and beyond



Who is Producing Aviation Grids

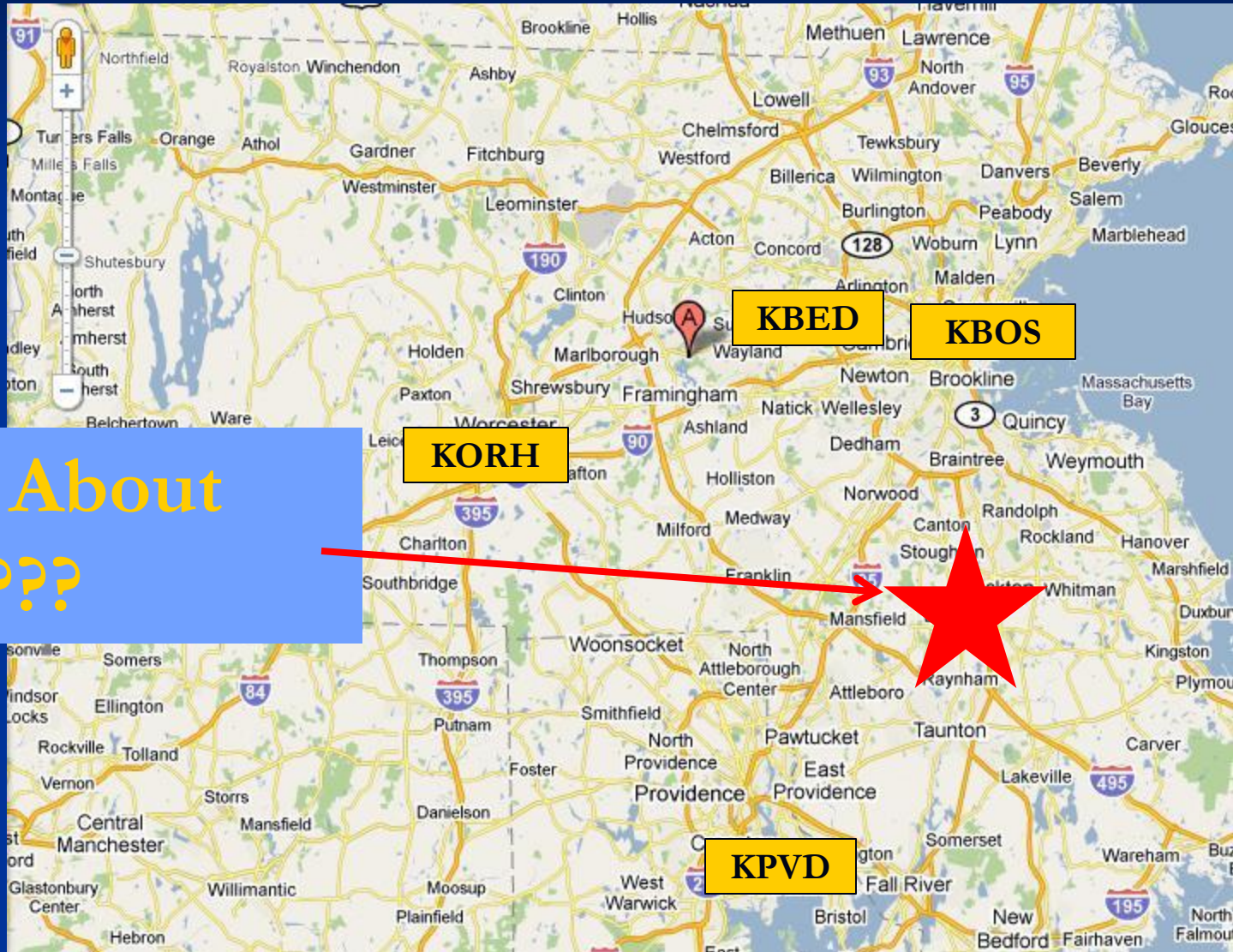
- Participating NWS Forecast Offices are producing experimental digital forecasts of ceiling and visibility
 - Boston, MA
 - Jackson, KY
 - Caribou, ME
 - Charleston, WV
 - Greenville-Spartanburg, SC
 - Sterling, VA and Chicago, IL (Coming Soon)



Operations Assessment

- Customers noticing a difference
 - Increased consistency between TAFs and other products
 - More frequent and proactive updates
 - Forecast information available for any point in forecast domain
 - Users can take the gridded database and create their own forecast products and displays
 - *“We have clearly noticed improved TAF performance and improved consistency in all public forecast products in the Boston area since NWS has been producing TAFs from the ceiling and visibility grids.”* - Rick Curtis, Chief Meteorologist, Southwest Airlines

A Change in Thinking



What About Here???

Current and Future Initiatives

- Coordinate the national requirements for Enhanced Digital Services
- TRACON forecasts produced from grids
- Enhance verification for the future
- Assess new guidance tools e.g. - Gridded LAMP, and high resolution numerical model output
- AWC to produce the Area Forecast from a national C&V grid

