

# Current Status of the Operational Wind Extraction Program in NOAA/NESDIS

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## ABSTRACT

At the time of the First International Wind Workshop (September 1991), NOAA/NESDIS had in place a strategic plan for replacing the old manually derived method of producing GOES cloud motion winds (CMWs) with a new automated CO<sub>2</sub> height assignment method. This new method became operational February 15, 1992 with immediate positive results in the timeliness, quantity and quality of the CMWs. In addition to this new automated method, starting in the summer of 1993, NOAA/NESDIS will begin producing and editing automated METEOSAT-3 CMW's along with GOES-7 VAS gradient winds for use in numerical weather prediction (NWP) models. This paper presents some early results of the CO<sub>2</sub>, METEOSAT-3 and VAS winds methods, along with the challenges NOAA/NESDIS faces producing three operational CMW's data sets.

At time of printing

only Abstract received