

Topic:

APT Channel Changes on NOAA-18 and NOAA-19

Date/Time(UTC) Message Issued:

03 December 2009 1600 UTC

Satellite(s) Involved:

NOAA-18 and NOAA-19

Instrument(s) Involved:

AVHRR

Product(s) Involved/Affected:

APT Direct Readout

Date/Time(UTC) of Initial Implementation:

No Earlier Than 21 December 2009, Time 0000 UTC

Details/Specifics of Change:

The NOAA/NESDIS Office of Satellite Operations has announced the following: The APT services on NOAA-18 and NOAA-19 will be modified to improve the data content. Traditionally, NOAA provides visible data and infrared data during the daylight portion of the orbit and infrared data during the night-time portion of the orbit. This allowed the APT users to have access to usable and complementary data at all times. Therefore, the new APT data content for the PM spacecrafts will be:

NOAA-18

- APT Channel A: AVHRR Channel 1, ground track day
- APT Channel A: AVHRR Channel 3B, ground track night
- APT Channel B: AVHRR Channel 4, entire orbit

NOAA-19

- APT Channel A: AVHRR Channel 2, ground track day
- APT Channel A: AVHRR Channel 3B, ground track night
- APT Channel B: AVHRR Channel 4, entire orbit

Since NOAA-18 is in close proximity of NOAA -19, the use of AVHRR Channel 2 (NOAA -19 APT) in the daylight portion of the orbit will enable APT users to acquire data for cloud and surface mapping. This will complement AVHRR Channel 1 (NOAA-18 APT) for land/water boundaries.

The use of AVHRR Channel 1 and Channel 2 in the same orbital plane will allow APT users the full range of visible data.

Contact Person(s) Name/Email/Phone Number for Questions:

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Web site(s) that contain other relevant information (where applicable):

<http://www.osdpd.noaa.gov/PSB/PPP/PPP.html> - History of level 1B notices

<http://www.ssd.noaa.gov/PS/SATS/messages.html> - All user notices