

NWS Weather Event Simulator 9.10

Release Notes

NOAA NWS Warning Decision Training Branch
Norman, OK

WES 9.10 Installation Package

This release contains 1 DVD for NWS offices to accomplish the following objectives:

- 1) Install the WES 9.10 Software
 - a. Refer to the **INSTALL_WES910.pdf** document on the “**WES 9.10**” install DVD for instructions on completing this process.

Important Note: Any cases localized with the previous WES9.7 build (containing OB9.7) do **not** need to be re-localized with WES9.10. The AWIPS localization process with the OB9.10 in WES9.10 has not changed significantly since OB9.7 and WES9.7, so no localization update disk has been provided for WDTB cases with WES9.10. The WES9.7 localization update disk can be used with either WES9.7 or WES9.10.

What's New in WES 9.10

1. Updated with AWIPS Software Builds from OB9.8 - OB9.10

- The previous WES9.7 release contained build OB9.7, and the new WES9.10 release includes updates for the following AWIPS builds: OB9.8, OB9.8.1, OB9.9, OB9.9.1, OB9.9.2, and OB9.10. Some of the AWIPS updates include changes to GFE, WarnGen, VrShear Tool, radar mosaic sampling, and other smaller changes. NDM files and AWIPS shapefiles were also updated with this release.

Important Note: AvnFPS was not updated in WES9.10, so the AvnFPS in WES9.10 is from the OB9.7 build used in WES9.7. The latest version of AvnFPS will work with the WES-2 Bridge (WDTB's AWIPS-2 version of WES), which will be released during the initial AWIPS-2 migration.

2. WES Fix for Missing Tilts in FSI

- Some tilts were missing in FSI, and the new fix prevents this from happening. When FSI is launched, WES will delete any pre-WES9.10 created FSI index files. This will force a new index file to be correctly built. The first time this is done, it will take some time for FSI to build the inventory for a particular radar. Once the new index file is built, FSI launches relatively quickly.

3. New Grid Notifications in Simulations

- In support of the GOES-R training in AWOC, any data in <your_case>/Grid will automatically update in a simulation. This will support any Grid product, and in particular the Grid/LOCAL/netCDF directory where many additional local datasets, like the GOES-R experimental products, are stored. All the data in a particular file is notified at once (e.g. an hourly file will update the D2D with the whole hour's contents once it is notified for).

4. Some GFE Customization Instructions Added to WES Documentation

- George Phillip's and Phil Schumacher's GFE customization instructions have now been incorporated into the WES documentation (Section 6 and Section 18), and instructions have been added to modify the models used to create default GFE grids. See Section 18 in the WES User Guide for more information.

5. WES Supports Longer Case Names

- Previous version of WES would not complete a DRT conversion if the number of characters in the full path to the case exceeded 80 characters (i.e., descriptive case names like "2012May19-Landspouts"). WES 9.10 has been edited to support longer case names (full path to the case up to 160 characters).

6. Improved Melting Layer Time Offsets

- The melting layer time offsets for each tilt were specified to be the same for a given volume scan in the previous versions of WES. In WES 9.10, each tilt of melting layer product arrives with the other base data. This difference is not very noticeable. To update previous WES cases in DRT format, restore your case to original format and then convert to DRT format.

7. WES 9.10 Overview Training in the LMS for NOAA users

- All NOAA WES installation focal points and WES training focal points (see <http://www.wdtb.noaa.gov/tools/wes/admin/WES-IOP-Final.pdf>) must take this short training in the LMS (see <http://doc.learn.com/noaa/nws>). To take the module, you will need to search for "WES 9.10" in the LMS catalog.

Known Issues in WES 9.10

- FFMP localizations delete FFMP data on live AWIPS and on the WES. Every time you relocalize with the "-ffmp" switch, you will need to recreate the FFMP data with the "Create FFMP Dataset" accessed through the "Tools" button in WES.
- start_simulator sometimes erroneously detects an existing simulation. If you get a warning popup stating another start_simulator program has been detected, and you know another simulation is not running, you may disregard it.

- The OB9.10 and WES9.10 requires a 32-bit Redhat Enterprise 5 operating system.
- A small feature in GUARDIAN designed to allow the user to move the GUARDIAN status bar to different screens does not function correctly.
- AvnFPS in WES9.10 is the OB9.7 version previously used in WES9.7.

WES Development Timeline

The development of additional WES-1 builds beyond WES 9.10 will be dependent on how future DR fixes and AWIPS-1 enhancements support the WES training environment. WES-1 support will continue until AWIPS-2 is completely fielded. Because AWIPS-2 will not come with training capability designed in the baseline, WDTB is leading the development of a totally new WES-2 Bridge that will work with the AWIPS-2 software. The WES-2 Bridge platform will utilize the HP Z600 machines deployed to NOAA offices in December 2010. Upon transition to AWIPS-2/WES-2 Bridge, the existing HP xw6200 WES-1 will become a "WES-2 Lite" to provide multiple forecasters access a second AWIPS-2 machine for case processing and playback. WDTB will release the WES-2 Bridge prior to the release of AWIPS-2 along with a case converter to provide continuity between the old archived cases and the new AWIPS-2 format. WDTB plans to maintain the WES-2 Bridge until training capability is developed in the AWIPS baseline. Stay tuned to the WES web page or email list for the latest information.

Questions

Questions regarding WES 9.10 installation or support should be sent to the WES info list at wes@infolist.nws.noaa.gov. Questions regarding shipping or obtaining WES for non-NOAA use should be sent to the Warning Decision Training Branch.