

# 16 User Adaptable Configuration Files

## 16.1 gridconfigfile

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Located in the `/awips/fixa/DRT` directory, `gridconfigfile` allows the user to set a specific delay time that controls the visibility for each grid product (e.g. 0z NAM can be set to be visible at 0130z after setting the start time in DRT format). The delay time attempts to account for the processing and transmission time for a given model run.

`gridconfigfile` consists of the case-relative path of each grid product followed by a number. This number represents the time in minutes that you want the specific grid product to be delayed.

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**Note:** Changes to `gridconfigfile` **MUST BE MADE** while the case is in original format for the changes to take effect. If you make changes while in DRT format, then convert your case to original format and back to DRT for the changes to take place.

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To see the current delay times for a particular case, type `more <data_case>/drt/gridconfigfile`

### Example of Changing Grid Delay Time using `gridconfigfile`

Below is an example in which we change the delay time of LAPS and MSAS grid products to a delay time of 30 minutes from a default delay time of 20.

1. Convert your case to original format
2. Go to the DRT directory and open `gridconfigfile` for editing.

e.g. `cd /awips/fixa/DRT`

e.g. `vi gridconfigfile`

3. Change the delay times for the first two lines from 20's to 30's. Once completed, the first two lines should read as follows:

Grid/FSL/netCDF/LAPS\_Grid/LAPS 30

Grid/FSL/netCDF/MSAS 30

4. Save the changes and then convert your case back to DRT format. In a simulation of this case, your LAPS and MSAS products will now process 30 minutes after valid time.

## 16.2 pointconfigfile

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The `/awips/fixa/DRT/pointconfigfile` allows the user to set a specific delay time that controls the visibility for each point product in both D2D and AVNFPS (e.g. in the default file, METAR text products are assigned a two minute delay to simulate normal transmission delays). This file will likely not need to be modified, and **we recommend not doing so unless there is a strong need**. Correctly modifying the file requires understanding of the data times stored in the files. Currently METAR and maritime obs are the only point products processed on sub-hourly time scales with WES.

`pointconfigfile` consists of the case-relative path of each point product followed by a number. This number represents the time in minutes that you want the specific point product to be delayed.

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**Note:** Changes to `pointconfigfile` **MUST BE MADE** while the case is in original format for the changes to take effect. If you make changes while in DRT format, convert your case to original format and back to DRT for the changes to occur.

**Note:** If you decide to change the point product delays, it is important to make the hourly netCDF file delay consistent with the individual files. For example, the original netCDF METAR files have data until 45 minutes past the hour. With a two minute delay for AvnFPS METAR files (current default setting), the delay for netCDF METAR files needs to be 47 minutes. If these values are inconsistent, problems with data synchronization will result.

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### Example of Changing Point Delay Time using `pointconfigfile`

Below is an example in which we change the delay time of METAR fed to AvnFPS to a delay time of 4 minutes.

1. Convert your case to original format
2. Go to the DRT directory and open `pointconfigfile` for editing.

e.g. `cd /awips/fixa/DRT`

e.g. `vi pointconfigfile`

3. Change the delay times for the AvnFPS METAR lines to 4's and hourly METAR files to 49 (45 min + AvnFPS offset). Once completed, the lines should read as follows:

```
avnfps/point/metar/text 4
avnfps/point/metar/netcdf 4
point/metar/netcdf 49
```

4. Save the changes and then convert your case back to DRT format. In a simulation prepared with these values, METAR data is fed to AvnFPS at four minutes after the valid time.

## 16.3 runPointFlag

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The `/awips/fixa/DRT/runPointFlag` file allows the user to turn on/off the five minute point METAR/maritime data processing. The default setting has the five minute point data processing turned on. You may wish to turn off the five minute point data processing slower performance occurs on a non-baseline WES machine when starting a simulation or during a simulation near the end of the hour's observation (usually around 45 minutes after the hour).

The file `runPointFlag` contains the text "YES" or "NO".

- If the file contains "YES" the METAR/maritime point data will be processed on a five minute basis
  - Point data will be made visible at their respective valid times using the delay specified in the `pointconfigfile` (see section 16.2)
- If the file contains "NO" the METAR/maritime point data will be processed hourly. Don't select this option if you plan on running AvnFPS.
  - All point data will be made visible at the top of the hour regardless of the valid time

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**Note:** Changes to `runPointFlag` **MUST BE MADE** while the case is in original format for the changes to take effect. If you make changes while in DRT format, you must then convert your case to original format and back to DRT for the changes to take place.

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## 16.4 avnfpsMetarHours.txt

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The `/awips/fixa/DRT/avnfpsMetarHours.txt` file specifies the number of hours of METAR observations AvnFPS can access prior to the simulation start time. The default setting is 12; this file probably need not be changed.

For example if you set:

- **Simulation Start Time:** 1800Z
- **avnfpsMetarHours.txt:** 12

AvnFPS will have access to METAR data from 0600Z to 1800Z upon initialization.

To change, simply open **avnfpsMetarHours.txt** in a text editor, alter the number and save.