

WEATHER DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM III



What is WDS?



The WDS System is a sophisticated workstation, equipped with an antenna and receiver for tracking weather satellites and acquiring the signals they broadcast.

The WDS System produces local weather images from high-resolution data that it receives from satellites operated by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The data is directly broadcast from the satellites via a signal called High-Resolution Picture Transmission (HRPT)—the same source of data used by professional meteorologists.

The antenna is housed inside a radome, a durable fiberglass covering that protects the antenna from the elements. A Global Positioning System (GPS) antenna provides the WDS System with the accurate position and time information it requires to track weather satellites.

New images arrive on a regular schedule to provide the mariner with the most updated weather information. These images are supplemented with wind, wave height, and text forecast data.

The easy-to-use software interface lets you apply maps, grids, titles, and weather overlays to images, change image colors, or animate a sequence of images, all with point-and-click control.



LRIT





WDS III is also capable of getting images from a constellation of geostationary weather satellites.

These satellites are spaced around the globe so that, among them, they provide coverage of most of the Earth except for the polar regions.

Weather imagery from around the world are produced from Low Resolution Information Transmission (LRIT) data received from the geostationary satellites. LRIT (the greatly improved replacement for WEFAX) provides a synoptic view, enabling you to see entire weather systems affecting your immediate area and beyond.







TeraScan Polar Satellite Shipboard Tracking Systems



NOAA/DMSP, L/S-Band, 1.0m aboard USS Kittyhawk

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In addition to images from satellites, WDS-III can also receive and display

forecasted conditions, including wave height, local area text forecasts, and surface winds.

WorldMet data services can also provide the mariner, user selected products such as Potential Fishing zones, Data Fusion products and high resolution MODIS data on a subscription basis.

These forecasts and additional data products are available to ships equipped with high speed wireless data communications.

















Why do all of us do what we do?









Thank You for taking the time to attend!