

Marine Stratus Forecast System (MSFS)

PROGRAM/PROJECT: Aviation Weather Research Program/Terminal Ceiling & Visibility Product Development Team [<http://www.faa.gov/aua/awr/>]

LEAD AGENCY/COLLABORATING AGENCIES: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)/Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Lincoln Laboratory (MIT/LL)

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SERVICE AREA(S)/INITIATIVE(S)

- *National Aviation Weather Initiatives:*
1: 11

FUNDING

- *Programmed/Planned (\$'s/FY):* \$550K/FY03 /FY04

TYPE OF PROGRAM/APPLICATION

R&D/Decision Support

SCOPE OF PROGRAM/PROJECT

- *What's being developed, procured, etc.:* a 1-6 hour consensus forecast of the marine stratus burn-off for San Francisco International Airport to allow for real time planning of the resumption of parallel aircraft approaches to maximum capacity.
- *How operations will be changed/improved:* allows for real time planning of the resumption of parallel aircraft approaches for maximum capacity. Improved sensing of key atmospheric parameters, dynamic atmospheric modeling, and forecasting rules.

PROGRAM/PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- *Basic guidance document for this program:* FAA Terminal Ceiling and Visibility Product Development Team Technical Direction.
- *Program/Project verification process:* Monthly and quarterly reporting; semi-annual program reviews, science panel reviews, RE&D advisory committee project assessments, use of test beds for evaluations
- *Method used for end product validation:* evaluation by center weather service unit forecasters, assessment by the FAA W.J. Hughes Technical Center
- *Operational training for the user:* Hands-on training provided for center weather service unit forecasters

SCHEDULE/IMPLEMENTATION

- *Next major program milestone:* FY04: technology transfer to NWS.
- *Program becomes operational:* FY04
- *Plans for further improvements:* N/A