

Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS)

PROGRAM/PROJECT: ASOS product improvements. [<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/asos>]

LEAD AGENCY/COLLABORATING AGENCIES: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Defense (DoD)

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SERVICE AREA (S)/INITIATIVE (S)

- *National Aviation Weather Initiatives:*
1: 7 2: 5 4: 2 6: 6

FUNDING

- *Programmed/Planned (\$'s/FY):* \$8.9M /FY 03; \$9.1M /FY 04; \$12.6M /FY05

TYPE OF PROGRAM/APPLICATION

Product Development

SCOPE OF PROGRAM/PROJECT

- *What's being developed, procured, etc.:* upgrades to the ACU processor, all-weather precipitation accumulation gauge, ice-free wind sensor, dew point sensor, precipitation identifier, ceilometer, and improved freezing precipitation algorithm and ceiling/visibility reporting
- *How will operations be changed/improved:* increased reliability, reduced maintenance, and better observations to support aircraft operations

PROGRAM/PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- *Basic guidance document for this program:* ASOS specifications and requests for change.
- *Program/Project verification process:* Preliminary and Critical Design Reviews, Functional and Physical Configuration Audits. The ASOS Program Management Committee and the ASOS Configuration Control Board provide oversight.
- *Method used for end product validation:* Component, Integration, System and Acceptance Testing including Operational Acceptance Tests.
- *Operational training for the user:* Installation Instructions; Updates to Maintenance Manuals, Software Documentation, and Training Materials and Courses.

SCHEDULE/IMPLEMENTATION

- *Next major program milestone:* Complete ACU processor upgrade deployment in December 2003. Deploy all-weather precipitation accumulation gauges October 2003 through September 2004. Complete operational testing of new "ice free" wind sensor in November 2003. Full-scale deployment of new wind sensor should begin in December 2003 and extend through September 2005.
- *Program becomes operational:* ASOS is an operational system. Product improvements will continue through the FY 09 timeframe.
- *Plans for further improvements:* Additional capabilities for sunshine duration and snow depth.