

TC SIGMET

When a tropical cyclone (intensity 34 knots or greater) develops in your FIR, or has entered your FIR, or is expected to enter/develop in your FIR – Issue a TC SIGMET **without delay**.

STEP 1 Information Received

Source of Information	Type of Information	Issue a TC SIGMET
MWO, TCAC	Observations that confirm a tropical cyclone has developed, and/or information concerning a tropical cyclone is received from a TCAC.	TC observed - issue immediately. TC forecast to enter/develop in MWO's FIR - issue up to 12 hours before time TC is expected to enter/develop in FIR.



EXAMPLE: Tropical Cyclone Advisory issue by Tokyo TCAC for a tropical cyclone named Chanchu

```

151848 RJTDYMYX
FKPQ30 RJTD 151800
TC ADVISORY
DTG: 20060515/1800Z
TCAC: TOKYO
TC: CHANCHU
NR: 27
PSN: N1555 E11500
MOV: NNW 06KT
C: 930HPA
MAX WIND: 16/0000Z N1648 E11455
FCST PSN +6HR: 16/0000Z N1648 E11455
FCST MAX WIND +6HR: 90KT
FCST PSN +12HR: 16/0600Z N1740 E11450
FCST MAX WIND +12HR: 90KT
FCST PSN +18HR: 16/1200Z N1853 E11445
FCST MAX WIND +18HR: 90KT
FCST PSN +24HR: 16/1800Z N2005 E11440
FCST MAX WIND +24HR: 90KT
RMK: NIL
NXT MSG: 20060516/0000Z
    
```

Key

WMO abbreviated heading, disseminating centre and transmission day/time

Name of TCAC or issuing MWO

FIR

Sequence number and validity period day/time

Name of tropical cyclone

Time tropical cyclone observed and its position

Direction (16 points of compass) and speed of movement of tropical cyclone (TC advisory)

Extent, direction (8 points of compass), movement and changes in intensity of TC (provided by MWO)

Forecast position of tropical cyclone (TC advisory). The appropriate forecast position in a TC advisory is included in a TC SIGMET

For an observed TC, the start of validity for the SIGMET should be the same as the issue time. For a forecast TC SIGMET, the start of the validity should be the time the TC is expected to enter/develop in a MWO's FIR. The validity of a TC SIGMET is normally not more than 6 hours.

STEP 2 TC SIGMET Prepared

EXAMPLE 1: TC SIGMET for a TC observed in a MWO's FIR

```

Format:
WCA.A#l CCCC YYGGgg
##### SIGMET [m]n VALID YYGGgg/YYGGgg cccc-
##### FIR Name# FIR TC <TC Name> OBS AT <GGggZ> <Lat> <Long>
##### <FIR Name># FIR TC <TC Name> <FCST> <Lat> <Long>
CB TOP FL<NN> WI <NNN>[KM or NM] OF CENTRE
MOV <Direction> <Speed> <Changes in Intensity>
FCST <GGggZ> TC CENTRE <Lat> <Long>

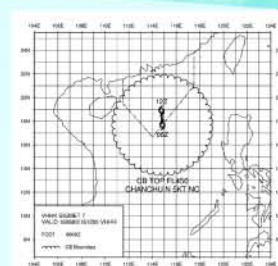
Example:
WCPH31 RPLL 151800
##### SIGMET 4 VALID 151800/160000 RPLL-
##### MANILA FIR TC CHANCHU OBS AT 1800Z N1555 E11500
CB TOP FL450 WI 240NM OF CENTRE MOV N SKT NC
FCST 0000Z TC CENTRE N1648 E11455
    
```

EXAMPLE 2: TC SIGMET for a TC forecast to enter a MWO's FIR from another FIR

```

Format:
WCA.A#l CCCC YYGGgg
##### SIGMET [m]n VALID YYGGgg/YYGGgg cccc-
##### FIR Name# FIR TC <TC Name> <FCST> <Lat> <Long>
CB TOP FL<NN> WI <NNN>[KM or NM] OF CENTRE
MOV <Direction> <Speed> <Changes in Intensity>
FCST <GGggZ> TC CENTRE <Lat> <Long>

Example:
WCSS20 VHHH 151800
##### SIGMET 7 VALID 160600/181200 VHHH-
##### HONG KONG FIR TC CHANCHU FCST N1740 E11450
CB TOP FL450 WI 240NM OF CENTRE MOV N SKT NC
FCST 1200Z TC CENTRE N1853 E11445
    
```



Graphical SIGMET based on Example 2

While the CB cloud is shown stretching across more than one FIR, the depiction of any CB cloud outside an MWO's FIR is subject to agreement by the State(s) concerned

STEP 3 TC SIGMET Transmitted

Tropical cyclones are hazardous to aircraft operations, so the issue of a TC SIGMET must be given high priority and issued without delay.

SEND TO:	Tel	Fax	AFTN	Email
ACC/FIC				
TCAC				
WAFCS				

Renew/Cancel

RENEW

- At least every 6 hours

CANCEL

- When tropical cyclone intensity falls below 34 knots
- Tropical cyclone has moved out of the FIR (or is moving out)

IF CANCELLED

- Consider need for a TS SIGMET