

The GOES-8 and -9 Winds Operation in NOAA/NESDIS
Both Present and Future

Regis J. Walter

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Environmental Satellite,
Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)
USA

ABSTRACT

A new era of satellite derived winds began on January 11, 1996 at NOAA/NESDIS. Based on a benchmark analysis of other techniques used around the world, and consensus that the European methodology appeared the best, the winds process became totally automated after nearly twenty years of man/computer interactive production.

The new operational process generates cloud motion and water vapor motions winds through an automated target selection, vector calculation, and editor system. This paper briefly describes the history of satellite winds, the current winds process and the future plans at the NOAA/NESDIS.