



weather.com

April 2002

US 1.67 Release Notes

Weather Star XL



Release Overview

The Weather Channel US 1.67 Release contains enhancements and corrections to problems with the Weather Star XL units that are identified in these release notes.

Release Deployment

This release will be deployed by satellite transmission to each Domestic Weather Star XL in the field. No assistance from the cable headend engineer is required.

During installation, viewers may temporarily experience one or more of the following anomalies:

- Screen briefly locks and jitters
- Ad tags display and end late
- Local Ad Crawl freezes during Local Forecasts
- Local Forecasts start and end late or

are missed

- Screen flashes to pink/black, etc.
- Audio briefly not operational

Each of these issues will rectify itself after a very short time.

Document Purpose

This document describes the enhancements and corrections contained in the US 1.67 Release. Each item in the release is described in terms of what the home viewer would see on a television screen.

Scope

The information in this document applies to US Weather Star XL units only. Corrections to any other unit types are not addressed in this document.

Items Included:

Changes to the 36-Hour Text Forecast 2

New NWS Bulletin Product 3

Test Environment Description

The US 1.67 Release was tested in The Weather Channel Quality Assurance Lab and verified to be working after applying the 1.67 Release. The QA lab is configured as follows:

Satellite Receivers

Standard Agile Omni Professional Channel 13
Frequency 6500—Medium

Drake Earth Station Receiver (ESR 1255) Channel 13
Frequency 3.960

Video Cipher

Wegener VideoCipherII Plus (model 2900)

Video Distribution Amplifier

Lenco PFM-300 (with PVA-350 cards)

Commercial Insertion Equipment

Channelmatic, Inc. Spotmatic Jr.
Channelmatic, Inc. Moneymaker

Solution Center
(800) 554-7354
starops@weather.com

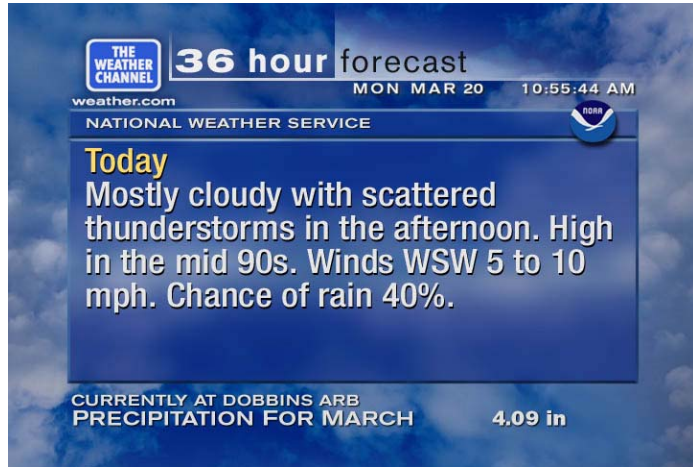
The Weather Channel Solution Center is staffed 7x24, 365 days a year to respond to any situation. We welcome any questions, suggestions, or comments on our products, services, and support.

Items Included in the US 1.67 Release

Changes to the 36-Hour Text Forecast

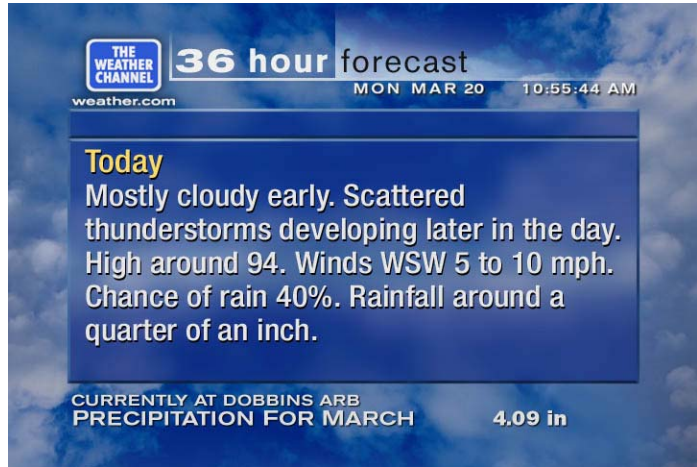
What You Saw Before . . .

The 36-Hour text forecast was provided by the National Weather Service (NWS). Although the forecasts from NWS were of high quality, they generally forecast the weather conditions for an area and not a specific community. The NWS forecasts were not always consistent with other products regularly seen on The Weather Channel including hourly and extended forecasts.



What You See Now . . .

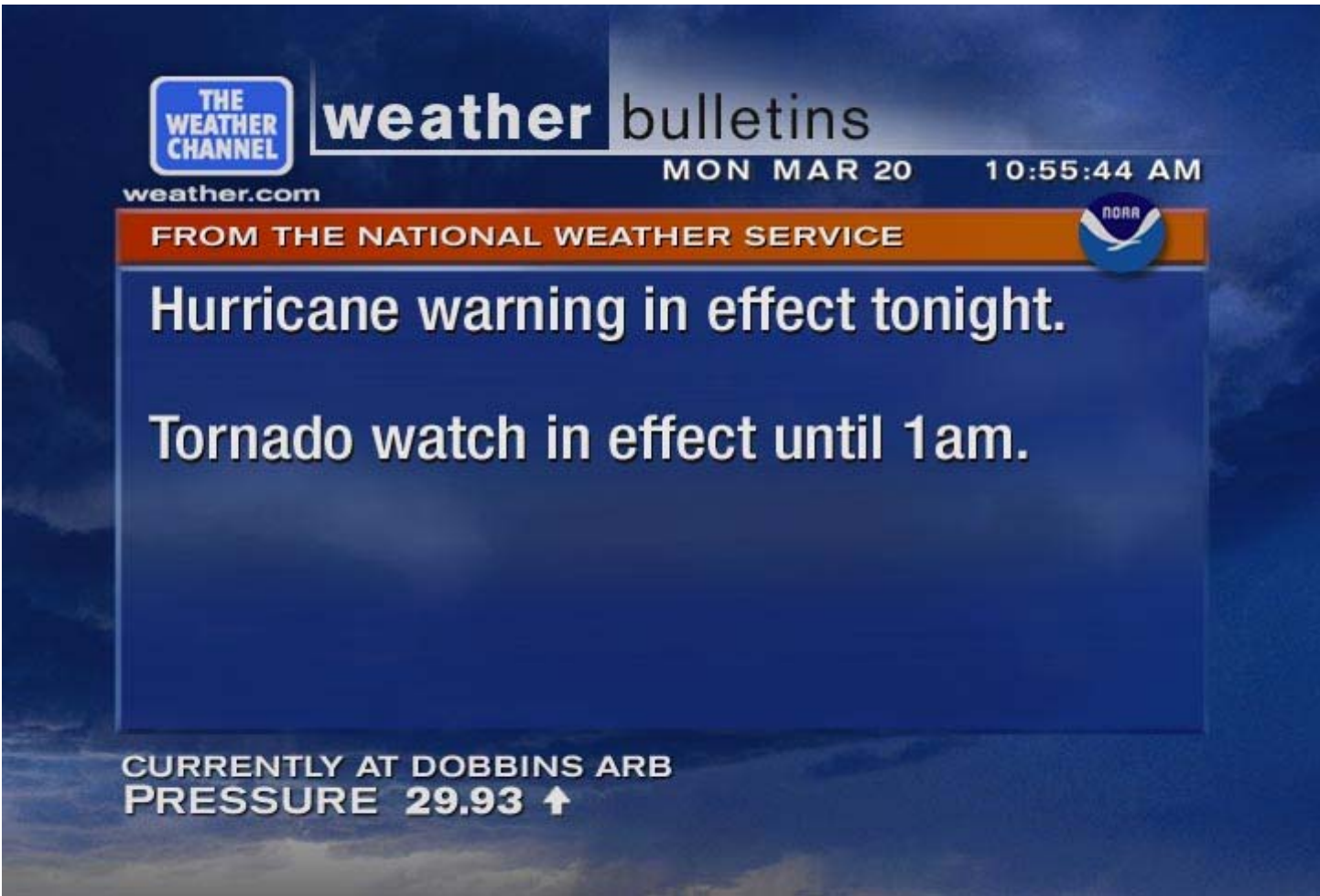
The 36-Hour text forecast is now prepared by The Weather Channel (TWC) meteorological staff. It will no longer carry the NWS name and logo. This new forecast is developed for a specific community—not an area. The text contains additional information including expected rainfall amounts. It will be consistent with other TWC forecast products and will enable the development of new forecast products for The Weather Channel viewers.



Items Included in the 1.67 Release (Continued)

New NWS Headline Product

What You Saw Before . . .	What You See Now . . .
<p>The headline from a National Weather Service (NWS) long-term watch, warning, or advisory bulletin would display, highlighted in yellow, at the beginning of the 36-Hour text forecast. These headlines could occasionally cause the forecast to overrun its allocated space and, consequently, the last portion of the forecast would not display.</p>	<p>These headlines will no longer be part of the 36-Hour text forecast but will be featured in a separate, new product. This new product will only display when there is a valid NWS headline. Examples of this type of message include: "Tornado Watch in effect until 7 PM", "Winter Storm Warning in effect tonight", "Record warmth expected today", and "Hurricane Watch in effect."</p>



National Weather Service (NWS) Bulletin Product