

Domestic 1.68 Release Notes

Weather Star XL



Release Overview

The Weather Channel Domestic 1.68 release contains enhancements to 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 contained in the Domestic 1.68 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 Domestic Weather Star XL units only. Corrections to any other unit types are not addressed in this document.

Items Included:

New Metro Map Product 2

Test Environment Description

The Domestic 1.68 release was tested in The Weather Channel Quality Assurance Lab and verified to be working after applying the 1.68 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 Domestic 1.68 Release

New Metro Map Product

What You Saw Before . . .

During the standard Local on the 8s segment at 58 minutes past the hour, virtually all areas of the country received a Regional Forecast Map, labeled as the forecast for today or tomorrow. This product included the weather and high temperature forecasts for a rectangular area roughly a few hundred miles across from west to east.

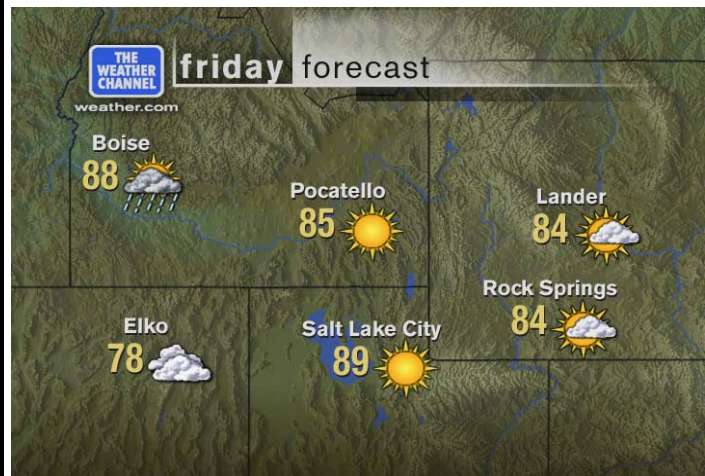


What You See Now . . .

In some areas, the Regional Forecast Map has been replaced with a forecast that features a more detailed, zoomed-in view of a metropolitan area. A list of areas that will receive these "Metro Maps" at this time is included at the end of this document. The Metro Maps product includes the weather and the high or low temperature forecast for a metropolitan area. These maps will display in all of the standard Local on the 8s segments.



In the rest of the country, the existing Regional Forecast Maps will still display at 58 minutes past the hour. Regional Forecast Maps will also now display in all other standard Local on the 8s segments as well.



Items Included in the Domestic 1.68 Release (Continued)

New Metro Map Product

The new Metro Map product will be available on Star XL units in the following metropolitan areas . . .

- Atlanta, GA
- Baltimore, MD
- Boston, MA
- Charlotte, NC
- Chicago, IL
- Cleveland, OH
- Dallas-Fort Worth, TX
- Denver, CO
- Detroit, MI
- Hartford, CT
- Houston, TX
- Indianapolis, IN
- Los Angeles, CA
- Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL
- Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN
- New York, NY
- Norfolk, VA
- Orlando, FL
- Philadelphia, PA
- Phoenix, AZ
- Pittsburgh, PA
- Portland, OR
- Raleigh-Durham, NC
- Sacramento-Stockton, CA
- San Diego, CA
- San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA
- Seattle, WA
- St. Louis, MO
- Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL
- Washington, DC