Procedures for Requesting GOES Platform ID Allocations

Procedure Number: SOP # 3.2.3.5 (E8)
Created: November 14, 2007
Created By: Bruce Servary, Jr., Operational Engineering Team
Updated By: Bruce Servary, Jr., Operational Engineering Team
Approved By: Rob Loesch, Observing Systems Manager
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1. **Title:** SOP # 3.2.3.5 (E8) Procedures for Requesting GOES Platform ID Allocations.

2. **Purpose:** This SOP outlines the procedures for requesting GOES Platform ID (Plat-id) allocations.

3. **Background/History:** Starting in 1988, CO-OPS began the installation of the Next Generation Water Level Measurement System (NGWLMS). This System changed the method of dissemination of water level and meteorological data from postal mail to satellite telemetry. This satellite telemetry is done using NOAA's Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES), which are satellites rotating the earth in geosynchronous orbits at longitude 75W (GOES East) and 135W (GOES West). Data is transmitted to a transponder on-board the satellites, which then rebroadcasts it so that it can be picked up by the ground equipment at the Wallops Command and Data Acquisition (CDA) station, in Wallops Island, Virginia. The data messages are stored in a database at WALLOPS called the Data Collection System (DCS) Automatic Processing System (DAPS). The data is identified using a Plat-id and channel designation. Each Plat-id has a Platform Description Table (PDT) that describes the origin and type of data, and which agency is collecting the data.

   A unique Plat-id must be assigned to each station Data Collection Platform (DCP) that transmits data over GOES. The PDT must be accurately filled out to describe the data and prevent DAPS generated errors for each transmission. Information specific to the type of data collected at each station and the stations location are required to complete the PDT. This SOP will define the required information..

4. **Scope/Applicability:** The SOP applies to the request for a Plat-id for the transmission of data from a CO-OPS station. Most of the work that is performed by this SOP applies to the Field Operations Division (FOD) and the Engineering Division's (ED) Operational Engineering Team (OET) and Chesapeake Instrument Lab (CIL).

5. **Main Processes:** CIL is the responsible group for assigning an available Plat-id for a station to be installed. Along with access to the DCS Administration and Data Distribution System (DADDS), CIL maintains a spreadsheet of the PDTs for all the CO-OPS owned Plat-ids, and publishes on a quarterly basis (or more frequently as needed) a Channel Distribution list of all the CO-OPS assigned Plat-ids.

The following are the steps required to request a Plat-id:

a. To request a Plat-id the requestor must send an email to cil@noaa.gov a minimum of ***three business days*** prior to testing the equipment that will be using this Plat-id. The email must contain the following information:

- Station ID
- Latitude & Longitude
- Type of Datalogger (Sutron 9210, Xpert, etc.) & Satlink version (SL2-G312-2)
- Type of data to be collected (water level, wind, air temp, etc.)
- Planned / estimated date of installation

b. Within five business days a Plat-id will be assigned to the station via reply email to the requestor containing the following information:

- GOES Platform ID
- Platform Name and Location
- GOES Channel
- Transmit Time (HH:MM:SS)
- Transmit Period
- Transmit Window (M:SS)
- Transmit Rate (baud)
- Antenna Azimuth (deg true)
- Antenna Azimuth (deg magnetic)
- Antenna Elevation

This is the information needed to configure the satellite information in the DCP and properly orient the station's GOES antenna. The azimuth and elevation data are calculated using the latitude and longitude of the station input into the application available at the following web site: http://www.satsig.net/ssazelm.htm .

6. **Detailed Sub-Processes/Checklists**: None.
7.
8. **Quality Assurance/Control**: The ED/SSEB Chief is responsible for ensuring compliance with this SOP.

9. **Management/Responsibility**: The Engineering Division is responsible for maintaining this SOP.