WAFS-METLAB2™ is an exciting way to visualize and process weather information. The WAFS-METLAB2 workstation is independent of any data source; it can be installed standalone or used in a client/server configuration. It can integrate with many sources of commercially available data, including GTS, WAFS, and AFTN. It also has the capability to interface with remote weather data such as Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS), Low Level Wind Shear Alert System (LLWAS), and wind profiler. These data types improve the frequency and sampling of the atmosphere. BriefNet is a companion subsystem added to WAFS-METLAB2. Combined, these GST systems make a data processing and production engine that serves in-house analysis and then extends it to external users. The combined configured workstation automatically creates charts and composes briefing documentation and provides internet access to the finished product.

The basic system is configured to WAFS data and includes functionality for overlays, folders, draw, alerts, print, and animate to visualize finished products. Modules include alphanumeric data, numerical models, DIFAX, SigWx (BUFR), time series, time profile, thermodynamic profile, and vertical cross-sections. Optional modules are added for satellite, radar, and lightning. Configured with the BriefNet subsystem, WAFS-METLAB2 has automatic product generation and flight documentation. The finished products in standard imagery format can be exported to external systems such as the internet or made available for pilot briefings.

The flexibility and ease of its use supports a wide range of weather professionals in the commercial, government, and military markets by alerting users to warning conditions or the arrival of warning bulletins such as volcanic ash or hurricane. Meteorology professionals use WAFS-METLAB2 for detailed data integration as well as for defining areas of interest to trigger alerts upon data arrival.

Users can conduct side-by-side comparisons of data products and then easily switch to alternate views that contain auto-updating product windows. Users can quickly change window configurations for different sector views as well as monitor conditions and imagery with automatic data updates. The emphasis on automatic product updating in display windows aids in monitoring changes in weather or flight conditions. Users can also personalize alerts and alarms (via a popup dialog box) upon the receipt of text bulletins (such as tsunami, volcano, and hurricane). Defined conditions, such as the ability to specify an area of interest for parameter values to trigger alert conditions, can also be set to alert the user. Users can create custom startup profiles of the products they wish to view upon starting WAFS-METLAB2, including the capability to establish multilayer overlays or views of specific geographical areas with the click of a mouse. Several profiles can be created, saved, and reloaded at any time.

WAFFS-METLAB2 includes communications software for data acquisition from either satellite or file server systems (e.g., WIFS and GIFS). The baseline configuration is World Area Forecast System (WAFS) data [alphanumeric, GRIB (GRIdded Binary), BUFR (Binary Universal Form for the Representation of meteorological data), T4] from a World Area Forecast Center (WAFC). Additional processing modules are added for satellite, radar, and lightning data sources.

**Workstation Features:**
- Automatic product updates
- Custom alerts and alarms
- Flight documentation
- Consistent user interface
- Remote data interfacing
- Message composition
- Integrated display of weather analysis products
- Connectivity to other subsystems and the internet
- Capable of creating distinctive, value-added products
- Scalable and configurable to customer requirements
- Multiple window configurations
- Auto product generation
- Instant startup configuration
- Smart image layering for product assembly and comparison

**Multi-Window METLAB2**

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