

Richards Michael

From: Lora Wilson - NOAA Federa [REDACTED]@[REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 3:02 PM
To: Richards Michael
Cc: Penwell Amy
Subject: Re: Aviation PDS Links - Identifying Low Level Turb as a Training Gap

Hi Mike!

So, I've searched around a bit and I don't know that I have a better answer for you on that third bullet. Unfortunately, the gentleman that was in charge of aviation training at the time the gap was identified has retired. I spoke to the woman who had the position just before me and immediately after him and she didn't have anything more concrete than what I said. I did talk to one of our MIC's who was around at that time and is my "co-executive producer" on the PDS effort. Here is her comment:

While we don't have a module called "Low Level Turbulence" we certainly address it in DLAC (LLWS) and convective modules. The thing we don't do is forecast it explicitly, which may be why we don't have an independent module on it. Like CAT at altitude, we know when conditions are favorable, but LLT is such a mesoscale phenomena which is not explicitly forecasted like LLWS, convection, frontal passages, mountain waves, etc.

Let me know if this answers your question or if it raises more.

Thanks!
Lora

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[REDACTED]

On Wed, Feb 28, 2018 at 2:54 PM, Richards Michael [REDACTED]@[REDACTED] wrote:

Lora, many thanks for your quick reply and these answers. This is very helpful.

If you wouldn't mind getting a more concrete answer to the third question it would be greatly appreciated. Even if its general and just confirming what your senses already tell you.

Thanks very much,

Mike

From: Lora Wilson - NOAA Federal [mailto: [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 1:27 PM
To: Richards Michael [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]
Cc: Penwell Amy [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Aviation PDS Links - Identifying Low Level Turb as a Training Gap

Hi Mike!

- **Below you say that NWS is actively in the process of updating the Aviation PDS. Can we confirm that as of today there is no formalized training focused on low-level turbulence available to NWS forecasters?**
 - That is correct. There is currently no formalized low-level turbulence training available to NWS forecasters as of today. It has been identified as a training gap within the Aviation PDS framework.
- **If that training is not available, what is the status and what are the specifics on the updates to the Aviation PDS (as they apply to low-level turbulence)?**
 - The Aviation PDS is in the process of a major update. It really got underway about 6 months or so ago. As I understand it, the update was really started due to a need to move it from its current website to another server that our training office is migrating to. However, this is forcing us to take a look at everything that is in the PDS and ensure that it is still valid. We finished scrubbing through all the links late last calendar year to see which are broken and which still work, etc. The past couple of months has largely been dedicated to seeing which links are aviation-related vs general training (e.g. "soft skill" training such as presentations, public speaking, etc that are relevant across all NWS service programs). We have our next team call on March 6 to discuss next steps. But at this point, we have not broached the subject of new training requirements/requests.
- **And if that training is not available, can you clarify why there has not been training developed since it was first identified in 2011 (if known).**
 - This one I can't answer since I just took over Aviation training last May. If this information is needed, I can ask my predecessor and others that have been involved in the aviation training program prior to me. However, it probably has a lot to do with prioritizing other requirements and funding. Let me know if you need a solid answer and I will find it.

Let me know if you have any questions or need more info!

Lora

On Wed, Feb 28, 2018 at 11:09 AM, Richards Michael [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED] wrote:

Good morning Lora.

As you know, we are considering asking our board to adopt a recommendation to the NWS aimed at low-level turbulence training for NWS aviation forecasters. I wanted to follow-up to your email below (sent last year) and ask for an update and some additional information.

- Below you say that NWS is actively in the process of updating the Aviation PDS. Can we confirm that as of today there is no formalized training focused on low-level turbulence available to NWS forecasters?

- If that training is not available, what is the status and what are the specifics on the updates to the Aviation PDS (as they apply to low-level turbulence)?

- And if that training is not available, can you clarify why there has not been training developed since it was first identified in 2011 (if known).

Really appreciate your assistance here.

Mike

Mike Richards

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From: Lora Wilson - NOAA Federal [mailto:██████████@██████████]
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 12:52 PM
To: Richards Michael ██████████@██████████
Subject: Aviation PDS Links - Identifying Low Level Turb as a Training Gap

As requested, below are a couple of links for you. For your entertainment, the first link is to the main Aviation Professional Development Series (PDS) site. It is divided into 5 Professional Competency Units (PCU) that have various SMEs that worked on them. Each of the PCU sites are not pretty!

The second link is to the PCU that identifies the training gap with low-level turbulence. You're not going to find a lot of detail with that, but what I can say is that this initial version of the Aviation PDS was put together in 2011. So it was then that this training gap was identified. What I don't know and may be something that we talk to COMET about is 1) if it was ever brought up in the past 5-6 years as a potential for development 2) if it was, why it was "bumped" by others (if they know; it might have been due to NWS prioritization).

A final caveat: we are actively in the process of updating the Aviation PDS. There isn't a deadline for it per se, but we are trying to get it done as quickly as possible. Also, in addition to updating the info on the site, it will be moved to a different web server so we will also make it more aesthetically pleasing.

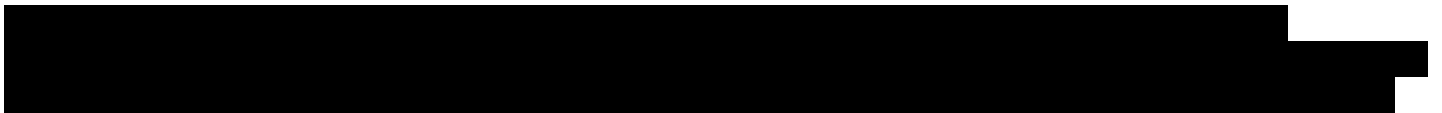
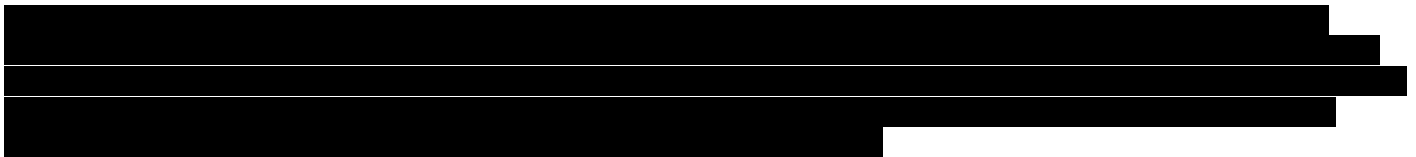
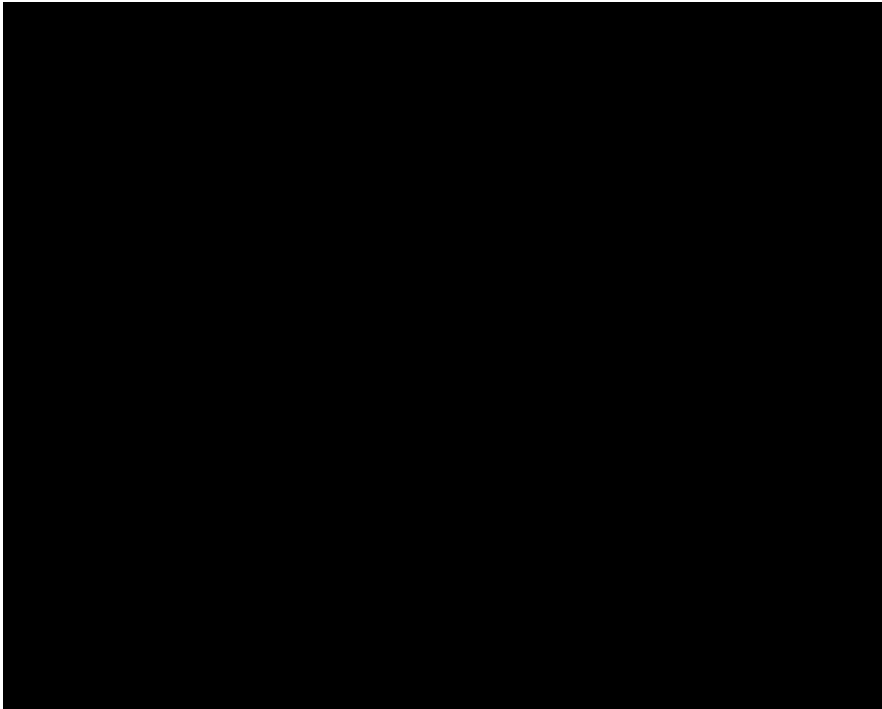
Obviously, if you have questions, do not hesitate to ask.

Overall Aviation PDS link - <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/training/aviationPDS.php>

PCU 2 link (for this one, you'll need to scroll almost to the end of the page and find Skill 8.3) - http://www.nws.noaa.gov/training/aviation_pcu2.php

Thanks!

Lora



[REDACTED]