



22:31:20 UTC  
17:31:20 EST

## DUATS Weather Briefing

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### Surface Observations

Atlanta GA (Cobb County-Mc Collum Field) [KRYY] hourly observation on the 20th at 4:47pm EST (2147Z)

wind 320° at 8 knots gusting to 14 knots, visibility 10 miles, 6,000 feet broken, 9,000 feet overcast, temperature -7°C (19°F), dewpoint -14°C (7°F), altimeter 30.19.

Marietta GA (Dobbins Air Reserve Base) [MGE]: no reports available

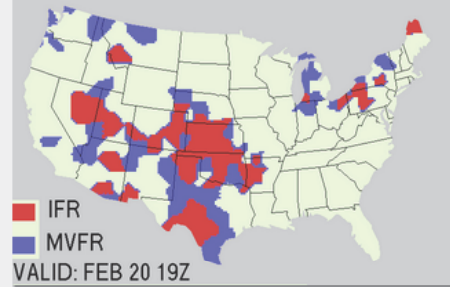
Atlanta GA (DeKalb-Peachtree) [KPDK] hourly observation on the 20th at 4:53pm EST (2153Z)

wind 320° at 13 knots gusting to 19 knots, visibility 10 miles, 7,000 feet few, 9,500 feet overcast, temperature 8°C (46°F), dewpoint -14°C (7°F), altimeter 30.16, automated station with precipitation discriminator, sea level pressure 30.20" Hg (1022.6 hPa), temperature 7.8°C (46.0°F), dewpoint -14.4°C (6.1°F).

Atlanta GA (Fulton County Airport-Brown Field) [KFTY] hourly observation on the 20th at 4:53pm EST (2153Z)

wind 310° at 7 knots, visibility 10 miles, 10,000 feet broken, 11,000 feet overcast, temperature 9°C (48°F), dewpoint -11°C (12°F), altimeter 30.18, automated station with precipitation discriminator, sea level pressure 30.19" Hg (1022.4 hPa), temperature 8.9°C (48.0°F), dewpoint -11.1°C (12.0°F).

### WEATHER DEPICTION



### Hot Buttons and Paired Weather Graphics Enhance Weather Briefings!!

CSC DUATS has made weather briefings easier to read and understand. The above snapshot of a CSC DUATS weather briefing shows the features available for a standard route briefing. First, notice the two rows of buttons at the top. They are “Hot Buttons” that let you jump to the specific weather type in the output of the weather briefing. In the example above of a low altitude weather briefing from ATL to MIA, the “METARS” hot button has been selected. What gets displayed is the METARS along the way from ATL to MIA in route order. “Plain Language” was selected in the weather briefing form providing METARS formatted in an easier-to-read presentation and have the fields interpreted into plain language. The translator also presents the time in your local selected time zone (set up previously in your Personal Profile) as well as the UTC time. Also with most weather types, a related graphic is presented to help you interpret the weather. The “Hot Buttons” along with their associated graphics are listed in Table 1.

HOT Button	Presented Graphic
Entire Briefing	None
Departure	None
Destination	None
Area Forecast	Current Surface Analysis Surface Forecast
Severe Weather	24 and 48 Severe WX outlook
Sigmets	Convective SIGMETs
Airmets	Links to: NWS G-Airmets Turbulence Icing Freezing Level
Center Weather Advisories	None
METARS	Weather Depiction
TAFs	None
Pilot Reports	Pilot Reports
Radar Summaries	National Radar
Winds Aloft	Link to Winds Aloft
NOTAMS	None
FDC NOTAMS	None

Table 1: Weather Type and Graphics

In addition, when you select the NOTAMs “Hot Button,” you get another two rows of “Hot Buttons” that will take you to any one of the eight key worded sections of NOTAMs. The “Hot Buttons” for the keywords for NOTAMS are:

- Runway NOTAMs
- Aerodrome NOTAMs
- Obstruction NOTAMs
- Navigation NOTAMs
- Communication NOTAMs
- Airspace NOTAMs
- Taxiway/Ramp Apron NOTAMs
- Service NOTAMs

Also there are two additional “HOT buttons”. The “All NOTAMs” button will let you see all the NOTAMs along the route. The “Other/Without Keywords NOTAMs” let you view those NOTAMs that are “other” or have no key words.

For example, if the “Communication NOTAMs” button was selected, the resulting display will show only the NOTAMs that contain the “Communications” keyword. If you selected the “plain language” option in the Low altitude briefing form, the NOTAMs will be formatted for easier reading and abbreviations translated. Times in the NOTAM will also be converted to the selected time zone in the pilot’s profile.

### Filing, Activating and Closing VFR Flight Plans

There are three steps of a VFR flight Plan — filing, activating and closing the flight plan. Let’s review how CSC DUATS helps you accomplish these steps.

#### Filing a VFR Flight Plan

CSC DUATS provides you with two forms to file VFR flight — FAA Domestic and ICAO. If you are flying in the U.S., you can use the Domestic form. Flights leaving the U.S. require the use of the ICAO form only. CSC DUATS accepts flight plans up to 24 hours in advance but not later than 30 minutes before departure time; exceptions are: Lifeguard, and Coast Guard flights, which can be filed up to 10 minutes before departure. When entering a departure time, make sure that the time is within 24 hours of departure. Take special care when you are entering the departure time to note whether it is local — accepted in Web DUATS — or UTC. Making an incorrect departure time entry could result in the plan either sitting in DUATS waiting for the transmit time or being sent early. In either case the flight plan may not be available. If you file a departure time which exceeds 24 hours, the system will interpret this as being within the current 24 hour time. Example: If you file 26 hours from the current time, your flight plan will be filed for departure 2 hours from the current time.

When you complete filing your flight plan with CSC DUATS, you have provided everything the FAA requires for a complete flight plan. CSC DUATS maintains this information for 15 days and is available for FAA approved inquiries until that time. In turn, CSC forwards the information required by the FAA to L/M’s and FAA facilities.

#### Activating YOUR VFR Flight Plan

You must activate your VFR flight plan with the FSS when you take off. CSC DUATS **does not activate** flight plans. If you do not activate your flight plan, the flight plan will time out in the system and be dropped. Search and rescue **will not be initiated** if you become overdue.

When activating your flight plan, please note that only a subset of the information in a VFR flight plan is transmitted in accordance with FAA specifications. If the flight service facility needs additional information for Search and Rescue or Event Reconstruction, they can request it from CSC DUATS using current FAA procedures.

If you feel that you are having to supply undue additional information during activation, e-mail to [duats@duats.com](mailto:duats@duats.com) or call 1.800.345.3828 and we will investigate.

If you ever encounter a missing flight plan, please advise CSC DUATS by phone or e-mail as soon as possible (data is only retained in DUATS for 15 days, after that it is impossible to retrieve information). Include the date you filed, aircraft ID, departure and destination. E-mail to [duats@duats.com](mailto:duats@duats.com) or call 1.800.345.3828, and we will investigate and provide our findings.

#### Closing VFR Flight Plans

Pilots are responsible for ensuring that their VFR flight plan is closed. You can close your flight plan through DUATS (regardless who you filed it with), or the nearest FSS. If neither of these services is available, you may request any ATC facility to relay your closure to the FSS. Control towers do not automatically close VFR flight plans since they do not know if a particular VFR aircraft is on a flight plan. If you fail to report or close your flight plan within ½ hour after your ETA, search and rescue procedures are started.

### Visit CSC DUATS at Sun’n Fun, Lakeland



**CSC DUATS will be at the Sun’n Fun in Lakeland, FL**  
April 9 —14 in Hanger B, booth B052, B053 and B054.

CSC DUATS sessions will be given on the following days  
in the Central Florida Aerospace Academy:

Tuesday, 4/9	9 a.m. in Room #4
Wednesday, 4/10	9 a.m. in Room #3
Friday, 4/12	1 p.m. in Room #4
Saturday, 4/13	9 a.m. in Room #3

*Please retain your DUATS Newsletters for future reference.*

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