TRACON Compression Decision Support Graphic

Product/Service Name: Wind Compression (Decision Support Graphic)

Type Product/Service: Product

Scope: Region

Description: Compression is an ATC phenomena that occurs when aircraft flying Standard Terminal Arrivals (STARS), usually following one behind the other (nose to tail or in air traffic known as Miles in Trail (MIT)), lose adequate horizontal separation from each other. The phenomenon that creates this is usually a change in wind direction and speed between the two aircraft. Compression can occur when an aircraft, during descent, transitions from a tailwind, or a weak headwind, to a stronger headwind over a small change in altitude. This change could also occur with a heading change of the aircraft during its approach.

Originator: CWSU ZFW (Center Weather Service Unit Fort Worth, TX)

E-mail: thomas.amis@noaa.gov

Office: CWSU ZFW (Center Weather Service Unit Fort Worth, TX)

Address: 13800 FAA Rd. Fort Worth, TX 76155

Phone: 817-858-7523

Parameters: Sensible weather from AMDAR and NOAA GSD Sounding forecast data.

Software Required: None

Data Type/Format: Graphic

Example: http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/rtimages/zfw/DFW_Compression.png

Product URL: http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/rtimages/zfw/DFW_Compression.png

PDD file name: http://www.srh.noaa.gov/zfw/PDD/Compression_PDD.pdf

Dates of Comment Period: January 10, 2014 through October 1, 2014

Approved by: Mike Coyne, Deputy Director of Performance and Resource