

# **GFESuite Release Notes**

**Release Name: ob7.2 (ver. a) [OB7.2]**

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## Highlights of this Release

Description	Category	Tracking Number
<p>The GFE OB7.2 build contains a number of enhancements and bug fixes. Major enhancements to the text formatters include a tabular version of the FWS. Other text formatter enhancements include AFM/PFM first period sampling, expiration time algorithm adjustments, Multiple Element Table update issuances, and better support for Local Hazards. New VTEC hazards for Hard Freeze and Excessive Wind have been added. The order of Headlines in routine and hazard products have been updated.</p>		RN_Highlight 4707
<p>Smart tools and VTEC changes were made for the 2007 Tropical Season where the forecast paradigm with the TPC TCV and the forecast office changes. New tropical call to actions have been added.</p>		
<p>The GFE Practice Mode has been enhanced to make it easy for the forecaster to clear the grids and VTEC table.</p>		

## News You MUST Use

Description	Category	Tracking Number
<p>New VTEC codes (EW.W, HZ.A, HZ.W) are introduced in this version of GFESuite. The baseline Hazards color table has been updated. If you have overridden this color table, you will find that many of your defined colors will be shifted to a new VTEC value due to the insertion of the new VTEC codes internally. You will likely want to start over with the baseline Hazards color table and then make modifications to it.</p>	RN_Important	4693
<p>The addition of new VTEC codes required changes to the baseline MakeHazard and MergeHazards procedures. If you have overridden these procedures, please do a comparison between the new baseline version and your version and merge in the necessary changes. Failure to do this will result in these two procedures not understanding the new VTEC codes.</p>	RN_Important	4697
<p>The Call To Actions file format has changed. The Call To Actions can now be either strings or tuple of two strings. The tuple of two strings is the (description/title that appears on the GUI, actual CallToAction text) and if used, the description/title will appear in the Call To Actions GUI. The addition of tropical call to actions and new VTEC for Hard Freeze will require a careful comparison of the baseline version against any site-modified version of the Call To Actions file.</p> <p><b>If you do not do a merge, then you will not have the call to actions for the tropical hazards and Hard Freeze hazards.</b></p>	RN_Important	4697
<p>The contents of allowedHazards() has been changed on a variety of products. In order to ensure that the correct hazards are reported in your products, compare the baseline with any overrides that you have made. This affects both warning and routine products.</p>	RN_Important	4704

## **About This Release**

This release contains the complete GFESuite software package. The package includes the ifpServer (database), GFE (Graphical Forecast Editor), GHG (Gridded Hazard Generator) formatters, routine NWS text formatters, GHG Hazards Monitor, Intersite/Intrasite Coordination programs, Daily Forecast Critique, ifpIMAGE image generation program, and a host of other programs for diagnostic and data transfer purposes. Included is a complete set of online documentation containing training guides, reference documents, and user and configuration guides.

The data files are installed separately from the core GFE application. Data files included with the data releases are National Weather Service map shapefiles, EROS DTM topography data sets for the CONUS and OCONUS regions areas, and climate data (NCDC, PRISM) for the CONUS areas. There are three data releases: Maps, Topo, and Climo.

Default configurations for all NWS WFOs and RFCs is provided within the configurable portions of the software package.

## Package Contents

The package is available in two formats: AWIPS and non-AWIPS Distributions. Each package contains one of the four possible release sets (Core GFE, Map Data, Topo Data, and Climo Data). The Core GFE is operating system dependent while the Data packages are operating system independent.

### Non-AWIPS GFESuite Release Package

The following files comprise the four release packages for non-AWIPS (Core GFE, Map Data, Topo Data, and Climo Data):

#### Core GFE

Full Release	Description
installGFE	Installation script for GFESuite
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
stdGFE.tgz	Executable and data distribution, required for both full install (gfe plus ifpServer components), and for just GFE components
stdISC.tgz	Intersite coordination install files and scripts
stdOTH.tgz	Executable and data distribution, required for full install (gfe plus ifpServer components)
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named:  
OB7.2a\_RHE4\_GFESuite\_CORE.tgz.

## Maps Data

Full Release	Description
installGFEmaps	Installation script for GFESuite Maps
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
stdMAPS.tgz	Map shapefiles data set
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named: OB7.2a\_GFESuite\_MAPS.tgz.

## Topo Data

Full Release	Description
installGFETopo	Installation script for GFESuite Topo
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
stdTOPO.tgz	Gzipped tar file containing high-resolution topography data
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named: OB7.2a\_GFESuite\_TOPO.tgz.

## Climo Data

Full Release	Description
installGFEclimo	Installation script for GFESuite Climo
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
stdCLIMO.tgz	Climatology grids for GFE - NCDC, PRISM
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named:  
OB7.2a\_GFESuite\_CLIMO.tgz.

## AWIPS GFESuite Release Package

There are four AWIPS GFESuite Release Packages (Core GFE, Topo, Climo, and Maps) which consist of the Non-AWIPS release package, plus release notes and a masterGFE installation script. The master installation script provides the necessary checking required on AWIPS installations, plus sequences through installs on each of the required machines.

**NOTE: Normally only the CORE is installed on AWIPS, since the CLIMO and TOPO have not changed from the previous version, and the MAPS (shapefiles) are now the responsibility of the WFO to maintain.**

### Core GFE

Full Release	Description
masterGFEInstall	Installation script for installing the GFESuite "Core GFE" component on AWIPS
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
OB7.2a_RHE4_GFESuite_CORE.tgz	Executable and configuration data distribution, required for both full install (gfe plus ifpServer components), and for just GFE components. This is the same package as the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Core GFE release package. There may be multiple distributions packaged in the overall AWIPS GFESuite Release Package
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named  
OB7.2a\_GFESuite\_CORE\_AWIPS.tgz.

## Maps Data

Full Release	Description
masterGFEInstall_Maps	Installation script for installing the GFESuite "Map Data" component on AWIPS
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
OB7.2a_GFESuite_MAPS.tgz	Map Data release package for GFESuite. This is the same package as the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Map Data release package.
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named  
OB7.2a\_GFESuite\_MAPS\_AWIPS.tgz.

## Topo Data

Full Release	Description
masterGFEInstall_Topo	Installation script for installing the GFESuite "Topo Data" component on AWIPS
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
OB7.2a_GFESuite_TOPO.tgz	Topo Data release package for GFESuite. This is the same package as the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Core GFE release package.
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named  
OB7.2a\_GFESuite\_TOPO\_AWIPS.tgz.

## Climo Data

<b>Full Release</b>	<b>Description</b>
masterGFEInstall_Climo	Installation script for installing the GFESuite "Climo Data" component on AWIPS
README.html, INSTALLATION.html, CHANGES*.html, CONFIG*.html	Release notes and associated documents (the file you are reading)
OB7.2a_GFESuite_CLIMO.tgz	Climo Data release package for GFESuite. This is the same package as the Non-AWIPS GFESuite Core GFE release package.
VERSION	ASCII file containing build environment information

Typically the AWIPS GFESuite Release Package is named  
OB7.2a\_GFESuite\_CLIMO\_AWIPS.tgz.

## Support

Support is provided via NWS AWIPS "ifps" listserver and via NWSH Trouble Tickets.

## Prerequisites

The software requires the following minimum configuration:

Hardware	Minimum of a single processor 1GHz Pentium IV, 512MB memory, 20GB available space, 19" monitor, graphics configured for 1280x1024 resolution. Significantly better performance will be achieved with dual processor 3GHz Pentium IV, 1GB memory.
Data Source	NFS link to the AWIPS data server /data/fxa partition
Operating System	RedHat Enterprise 3, RedHat Enterprise 4, and Fedora Core 4 packages are available.

## Compatibility

Server Protocol Versions Supported	20060505, 20050715, 20041110, 20040701	
Other software compatible with this software release (software compatibility indicates that the other software can communicate directly with the provided ifpServer)	Complete Backwards Compatibility	OB7.2 and above
	Partial Backwards Compatibility (no reset VTEC table and no "make writable copy")	IFPS17 (ver. j) and above, OB6, OB7.1
	Partial Backwards Compatibility (no displayed real-time mode for VTEC Decoder, no reset VTEC table, no "make writable copy")	IFPS17 (ver. b through ver. j)
	Partial Backwards Compatibility (no VTEC table change notifications, no displaced real-time mode for VTEC Decoder, no reset VTEC table, no "make writable copy")	IFPS16 (ver. g through ver. k), IFPS17 (ver. a)

## **Running the Software**

Refer to the ifpServer startup and GFE startup guides for information.