

Outlook

Wilkens Weather
Technologies, L.P.



Member AR Group Inc.

NEWS FOR CLIENTS &
COLLEAGUES OF WWT

2005 Hurricane Season Outlook

A quick look back at the 2004 Hurricane Season shows 15 named storms formed in the North Atlantic Ocean region. Eight of these reached hurricane status, and four of them became intense hurricanes, category 3 or stronger. These four were Ivan, Karl, Frances and Charley. The 2004 season will be forever remembered for the four hurricanes that hit the state of Florida; Bonnie, Charley, Frances and Jeanne. It will also be remembered for the oddity of Ivan passing across the Gulf of Mexico twice; once as an intense hurricane and once as a comparably weak tropical storm after completing a clockwise loop around the eastern United States and the immediate coastal waters of the western North Atlantic. More than half of the systems formed in the tropical latitudes of the North Atlantic, a third of them formed in the subtropical latitudes of the North Atlantic, and 2 formed in the Gulf of Mexico. No tropical storms or hurricanes formed in the Caribbean Sea, although four passed through all or part of the Sea. Ten of the 15 systems managed to make landfall along some portion of the U.S. coastline.

The weather pattern across the western portion of the Northern Hemisphere and the sea surface temperatures occurring on either side of

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Now Servicing Upstream and Downstream Needs for Energy Companies

Wilkens Weather Technologies LP (WWT) is pleased to announce a new division named Weather Insight, LP (WI). Weather Insight was created to expand upon the downstream weather services offered to the energy industry. These new services will focus on the weather needs of energy schedulers, energy marketers and energy traders by providing superior and unique weather forecasting services along with outstanding customer support.

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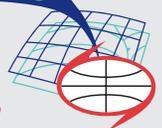


Figure 1 - Probability of Tropical Cyclones - 2005

Upcoming Shows

Offshore Technology Conference (OTC)
Reliant Center at Reliant Park - Houston
May 2-5, 2005
Booth #3035
See You There!

Wilkens Nowcasting



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Check us out at www.wilkensweather.com

Now Servicing Upstream Cont.

Weather Insight is led by energy industry professionals who previously built 'leading-edge' weather forecast systems, while trading energy based commodities. The advantage to building an in-house weather platform was to acquire superior and timelier weather information that would provide traders with a competitive advantage in the marketplace. Weather Insight's goal is to "Level the Playing Field" and bring these unique weather services to the downstream energy market, at fractions of the cost it takes to develop similar systems in-house.

Weather Insight's Foundation:

Weather Insight is built around the belief that "a single weather forecast cannot always be correct in all situations." Therefore, we ingest a large number of respected weather forecasts from around the world and archive these forecasts in a centralized database. This allows us to determine weather forecast confidence and monitor forecast accuracy.

Weather Insight has created a variety of unique weather services and industry specific applications that leverage this technological infrastructure. Along with the Wilkens Weather services, meteorological skill and superior customer support, we offer a complete solution to any energy company's weather needs.

Weather Insight's Services:

Newsletters

- **Bull's Eye:** This newsletter reviews upcoming weather patterns in the 1-5, 6-10, 11-15 and 16-30 day range. Produced daily and released around 7am, Bull's Eye contains both forecast summary maps and detailed narratives.
- **Eagle's Eye:** Provides a 90 day outlook with summary graphics and detailed description of the analysis behind the forecast. Produced once a month along with an additional assessment, which is distributed shortly after the NWS's 90 day Outlook is released.

Trader WorkStation: A single web page that provides tailored weather information for 11 of the most liquid electricity trading regions. Through Weather Insight's key alliances, the WorkStation also provides electricity demand forecasts, price forecasts and unit outage information for each trading region.

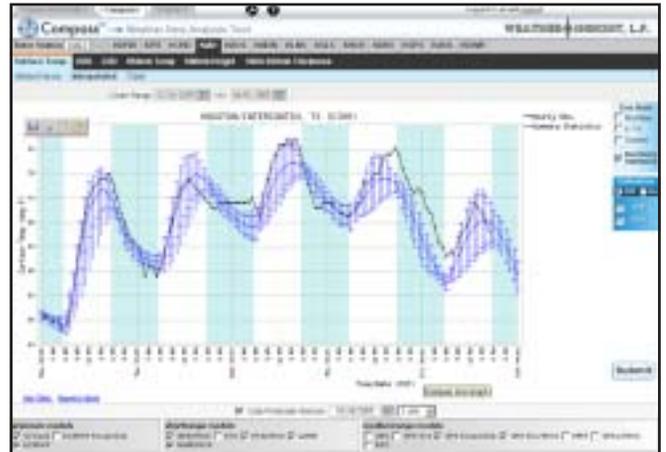
New England ISO



Forecasts

- **Q-Cast:** Weather Insight's proprietary weather forecast uses an advanced statistical process to weight a variety of weather forecasts based upon historical performance.
- **Q-Cast with Alerts:** Since Q-Cast is statistically generated from a variety of weather forecasts, Weather Insight will provide a 67% confidence band. In other words, if the band is wide, there is more uncertainty amongst the various weather forecasts "Alerting" our customers there is a lower confidence in the forecast.

5-Day Q-Cast with Actual Temp Overlay

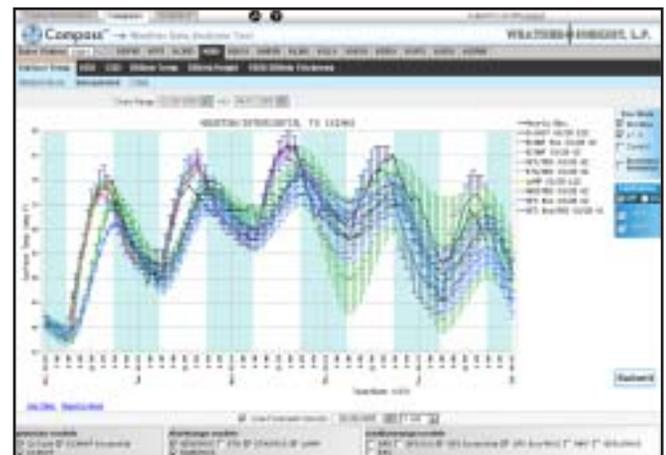


Severe Weather Monitoring: Our customers can customize the weather variables and thresholds of each variable, and Weather Insight will provide you with advanced notice when those thresholds will be crossed.

Forecast Analysis

- **Compass:** Compare Weather Forecast Accuracy- Which weather forecast historically performs the best for your specific locations? Forecast Confidence- Are multiple weather forecasts in agreement or disagreement with each other?

5-Day Forecast from Multiple Weather Models



Customer Service

- Superior 24 x 7 meteorological and technical support.

For more information regarding Weather Insight's services, please visit www.WeatherInsight.com and contact one of our sales representatives toll free at (866) 782-6899.

WilkensNowcasting: Where Technology meets experience.



How much downtime do you experience due to adverse weather or unfavorable loop and eddy currents? Would knowledge of short weather windows save you time and money? Have you experienced problems moving equipment around in the Gulf of Mexico or Caribbean Sea due to currents? Could you reschedule your day and save money if you had the right tools and improved forecast accuracy and reliability?

WWT Offers High Resolution Weather and Current/Eddy Forecasts.

Wilkens Weather Technologies (WWT), the leading marine weather forecasting company for the Gulf of Mexico, joined forces with Nowcasting International, the leader in supplying high-resolution forecast data to the offshore industry, in the spring of 2004. Since then, Wilkens Weather and Nowcasting International have been introducing WilkensNowcasting Pro to the offshore market. This new and innovative product includes all the expertise WWT provided in the past, now enhanced by the high-resolution weather and current forecasts Nowcasting International is known.

High Resolution Forecasts:

WilkensNowcasting Pro provides the most advanced technology available in high-resolution marine weather forecast data. This PC or web based patented technology allows you to download accurate, reliable, and value added weather forecast for which data quickly and cost effectively when you need it.

Key Features:

- **High Resolution Forecasts:** Forecast data is displayed hourly for the 1st 24 hours and every 3 hours for the 2nd 24 hours, both with 0.25 degree spatial resolution.
- **Timeliness & Reliability.** A dedicated server and communications link ensures prompt and reliable delivery of the most current weather data.
- **Graphical Display & Alarms.** You set your alarms to provide you a clear visual of the weather on your computer screen, allowing you to quickly and easily make critical decisions.
- **Communications.** You may access this service through any Internet connection. The communications are optimized for cost effective marine solutions. Data is downloaded quickly and you are free to analyze the data offline.
- **Detailed Weather Parameters:**
 - Wind Speed & Direction at 10 meters and 50 meters
 - Significant Wave Height
 - Swell Height
 - Swell Period & Direction
 - Currents, both at the surface and sub-sea
- **Archiving for Better Incident reporting.**
- **Coverage:**
 - US East Coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea and Trinidad
 - European Coverage includes: the North Sea, Mediterranean, and the Atlantic coast of Europe
 - Asian coverage includes: Sakhalin Island Region
 - West Coast of Africa

Key Benefits

- **Improved Safety:** The resolution and accuracy will support your operations with critical decisions during periods of bad weather when the safety of your people and equipment is paramount.
- **Improved Efficiency:** The accuracy of the high-resolution data will allow you to identify working windows of opportunity which otherwise may have remained unidentified.

Loop Current Forecasts:

In our ongoing dedication to supplying the best, most accurate information to companies operating in the Gulf of Mexico, WilkensNowcasting is offering forecasts for currents and eddies based on the tried and tested CUPOM model. In order to plan your schedule, you need to have access to a reliable forecast, and WilkensNowcasting is in a position to offer this to you.

In the past, eddies have been tracked via satellite temperature measurements, satellite altimetry measurements, floating and fixed buoys, ADCP's on oil rigs and platforms, and ships performing surveys. All of this tracking and monitoring has been put to good use in the model and with your help will continue to be used in the future to improve the model. Wilkens Nowcasting Pro, which was featured in the August 2004 edition of Offshore Magazine, is the premier service that uses all of the data described above to generate a long range, high quality forecast of the Loop Current in the Gulf of Mexico.

WilkensNowcasting is proud to offer this long awaited tool and is committed to continuously improving the forecast model through ongoing calibration and enhancements.

Availability of experienced Oceanographers.

Are you having difficulty moving rigs or equipment from one location to another? Are strong currents preventing you from performing operations at your location? Would using the currents to your advantage save you both time and money during your operations? WilkensNowcasting can help you solve your problems by giving you access to a team of oceanographers with over 60 years of combined experience. Besides being available for phone consultation, they can assist you in interpreting the forecasts and provide detailed, value added insight to conditions expected at your location or along your route.

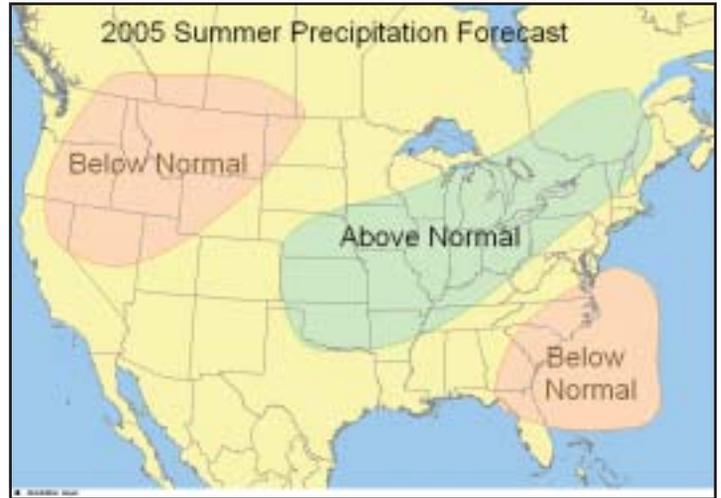
A large rig owner was recently moving a platform from the Gulf of Mexico to Trinidad. Shortly after leaving, they experienced strong currents that resulted in their forward speed being reduced to 1kt. With the expert help of our team of oceanographers, they were able to change course slightly and increase their speed to 5kts, which is faster than their expected speed of 3kts. This resulted in a significant savings of both time and money.

Contact our sales group at 713-430-7420 for more information on this service that can significantly affect your bottom line.

Summer Weather Outlook for 2005

Temperature and precipitation anomaly patterns from last summer show that North America was cooler and slightly drier than normal from the Plains States eastward and north of the U.S. Gulf coast. The low pressure systems occurring in the Gulf of Alaska and Northeast Pacific Ocean regions last summer moved southeastward to the western U.S. or eastward across western Canada and the Northwest U.S. and then southeastward into the Great Plains or eastern states. Summertime high pressure aloft over the subtropical latitudes was weaker than normal and transient in nature. These high pressure areas aloft, that often dictate the movement of tropical disturbances and where areas of hot temperatures occur, shifted in position, alternating with low pressure areas aloft. More often than not, the high pressure aloft over the subtropics was situated over the Atlantic Ocean or the Southwest U.S. rather than the Southeast U.S. A similar pattern of highs and lows, fronts, and tropical disturbances is likely to show up again this year.

So far this spring, a large area of above normal temperatures has formed over the eastern two-thirds of Canada and the United States. A continuation of this trend would aid in the faster than normal melting of sea ice in the north. This happened last year as well, though mainly off the north coast of Alaska and northwestern Canada. Sea ice tended to be persistent and solid around the islands of northeastern Canada last summer. Just where the sea ice tends to persist this year will dictate the location of the summer cool air source in the far north. The cold waters of the Gulf of Alaska will likely be another source.



2005 Summer Precipitation Forecast

in the U.S. this summer. The indication of a persistent, weak El Niño throughout the summer supports this.

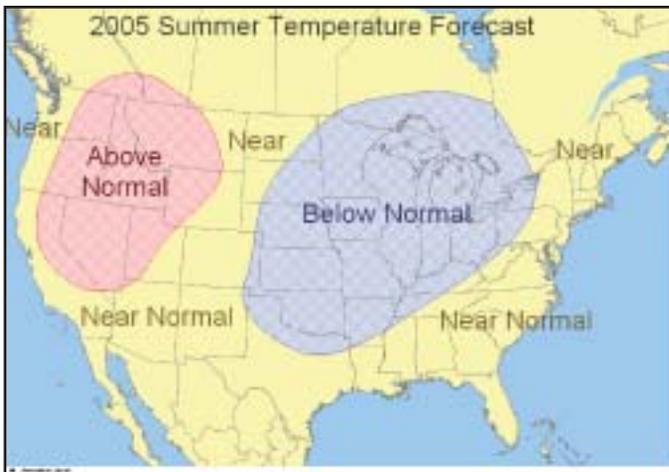
Temperatures averaging a few degrees below normal are expected from west of the Appalachian Mountain ridge to the eastern half of the Plains states. Dry weather and high pressure aloft out west should give the region north of Las Vegas and Albuquerque slightly warmer than normal summer temperatures. Near normal conditions are forecast for the remainder of the U.S.

Precipitation is forecast to be most abundant where the summer cold fronts are likely to meet up with humid air that typically flows north to northeastward from the Gulf Coast states. High pressure aloft occurring out west is likely to give some of those states a drier than usual summer, but a near normal summer monsoon is possible in the Southwest. Also, the expected influence of the Bermuda High (an area of high pressure centered near Bermuda and dominating the western North Atlantic Ocean) is forecast to keep the weather along the Southeast U.S. coast drier than usual. This, of course, is dependent upon the movement of any tropical disturbances moving toward the U.S. mainland.

2005 Hurricane Season Outlook Cont.

North America, Central America and the northern portion of South America are not appreciably different from what was occurring at this time last year, and we expect that only minor changes will occur in these patterns throughout the coming summer and autumn. Initially, a weak El Niño pattern could inhibit storm development. However, its effects are expected to be negligible by the height of the hurricane season. As a result, a hurricane season similar to last year can be expected this year, although areas impacted may not necessarily be the same.

For the North Atlantic Basin, 12 to 14 named storms are forecast to develop in and move through the area between June 1st and November 30th. These should include 8 or 9 hurricanes, of which 3 or 4 could become intense. The majority of the tropical systems will likely develop between the mid to latter part of July through early October. A slowing of the rate of development of the number of tropical cyclones typically takes place from mid October to the end of November.



2005 Summer Temperature Forecast

Through mid-April across the western Northern Hemisphere, the subtropical jet stream has persisted near 20-25 N latitude, and the polar jet stream is lifting northward over Canada. Several lows have separated from the polar jet and dropped into the mid latitudes of the U.S. As the warm season progresses, the subtropical jet should weaken and lift northward to the northern U.S. as the polar jet stream weakens and lifts farther northward to central and northern Canada. As happened last year, there will likely be times when low pressure systems will separate out of the westerly winds aloft and drop into the U.S. The resulting intermittent precipitation patterns will likely inhibit the development of any long lasting droughts or heat waves