

Aerodrome Forecast - TAF Decode

Code element	Example	Decode	Notes
1 Report type			
	TAF	'TAF'	Name for a Terminal Aerodrome Forecast
2 Location			
	EGSS	'London Stansted'	Station four-letter ICAO indicator
3 Date/Time of origin			
	130500Z	'For the 13th at oh, five, hundred, Zulu'	
4 Validity time			
	130716	'Valid from oh, seven, hundred, to, sixteen, hundred, on the 13th'	UTC (Greenwich Mean Time)
5 Wind			
	31015G25KT	'Three one zero degrees fifteen, max twenty five knots'	VRB = Variable; 00000KT = calm Wind direction is given in degrees true
6 Prevailing visibility or CAVOK*			
	8000	'Eight kilometres'	9999 = 10 km or more; 0000 = less than 50 metres
7 Significant weather			
	-SHRA	'Light rain showers'	See present weather table on METAR page for details; NSW = No significant weather
8 Cloud			
	FEW005 SCT010 SCT018CB BKN025	'Few at 500 feet, scattered at one thousand feet, scattered cumulonimbus at one thousand eight hundred feet. Broken at two thousand five hundred feet'	FEW = 1-2 oktas; SCT = 3-4 oktas; BKN = 5-7 oktas; OVC = 8 oktas; 'VV///' = state of sky obscured (cloud base not discernible). Figures in lieu of '///' give forecast vertical visibility in hundreds of feet. NSC = no significant cloud (none below 5,000 feet and no TCU or CB) CB will be the only cloud types specified. Cloud heights are given in feet above airfield height. Cloud heights are given in feet above airfield height. Cloud amounts are measured in oktas - one okta = one eighth of cloud cover.
9 Significant changes			
Probability	PROB30	'30% probability'	Only 30% or 40% probability will be used.
Time	1416	'from fourteen hundred to sixteen hundred,' or	Indicates beginning and end time of forecast period in UTC.
Change indicator	BECMG 1416 or FM 1400	'becoming from fourteen hundred to sixteen hundred' or 'from fourteen hundred' followed by	Also TEMPO = temporarily may be used.
Met. groups	TSRA BKN010CB	'Thunderstorm with rain, broken cumulonimbus at one thousand feet'	Met. group follows indicating a change in some or all of the elements forecast in the first part of the TAF.

*CAVOK will replace visibility and cloud groups

Example

18-hr TAF
 FTUK31 EGGY 102200
 ELL 102225Z 110624 13010KT 9000 BKN010 BECMG 0608 SCT015
 PROB30 TEMPO 0816 17025G40KT 4000 TSRA BKN012CB BECMG 1821
 3000 BR NSC=

Decode

Eighteen-hour TAF issued at 2225 Zulu on the 10th. London Heathrow valid from oh six hundred to midnight the next day. Wind one three zero degrees ten knots. Nine kilometres visibility. Broken at one thousand feet. Becoming from oh six hundred to oh eight hundred, scattered at one thousand five hundred feet. 30% probability, temporarily oh eight hundred to sixteen hundred, wind one seven zero degrees twenty five knots, gusting to forty knots. Four thousand metres visibility. Thunderstorms with moderate rain. Broken cumulonimbus at one thousand two hundred feet. Becoming from eighteen hundred to twenty one hundred, three thousand metres visibility, mist, no significant cloud.

Example

9-hour TAF
 FCUK33 EGGY 300900
 EGGW 300915Z 301019 23010KT 9999 SCT010 BKN018 BECMG 1114 6000 -RA BKN012
 TEMPO 1418 2000 DZ OVC004 FM1800 30020G30KT 9999 -SHRA BKN015CB=

Decode

Nine-hour TAF issued at 0915 Zulu on the 30th. Luton valid from ten hundred to nineteen hundred Zulu on the 30th. Wind two three zero degrees ten knots. Ten kilometres or more visibility. Scattered at one thousand feet. Broken at one thousand eight hundred feet. Becoming from eleven hundred to fourteen hundred, six kilometres, light rain. Broken at one thousand two hundred feet. Temporarily fourteen hundred to eighteen hundred. Two thousand metres visibility. Moderate drizzle. Overcast four hundred feet. From eighteen hundred, three zero zero degrees twenty knots gusting to thirty knots. Ten kilometres or more visibility. Light rain showers. Broken CB one thousand five hundred feet.