

Appendix 3

Automated Weather Observing Systems

AWOS- Automated Weather Observing System.

ASOS- Automated Surface Observing System.

AWOS-3 reports all the items in a METAR – time of observation, wind, visibility, sky coverage/ceiling, temperature, dew point and altimeter setting. The designator "**A02**" in the remarks portion of the observation indicates the station has a precipitation discriminator that determines the difference between liquid and freezing/frozen precipitation.

ASOS reports the same data as AWOS-3 **plus** precipitation type and intensity like the AWOS-3 sites with the A02 capabilities.

AWOS-2 reports the same METAR items as an AWOS-3 except it **does not report sky coverage/ceiling information.**

AWOS-1 reports the time of observation, wind, temperature, dew point and altimeter setting. **It does not report visibility or sky coverage information.**

AWOS-A reports **only** the time of observation and altimeter setting.

The prefix "AUTO" indicates the data is derived from an automated system. A certified weather observer may provide augmented weather and obstruction to visibility information in the remarks of the report at AWOS locations.

The "AUTO" prefix disappears when the report has been augmented by human observers.