This document reports a observation schedule of MTSAT, and a image dissemination schedule for HiRID, LRIT image and WEFAX via MTSAT.
Schedules of MTSAT Observation and Image Data Dissemination

1. MTSAT observation schedule

MTSAT observation schedule is shown in Attachment 8-1. Regular observations will consist of hourly full disk observations and six-hourly sequential hemisphere observations for wind vector extraction. Special observations of the northern hemisphere will be performed when typhoons or developed lows exist in the Northwest Pacific or severe convective systems are expected in the vicinity of Japan.

Observation schedule will be changed to avoid solar ray intrusion to the imager at a time frame of 13UTC – 16UTC around the eclipse seasons.

2. Image data dissemination

There are three types of image data dissemination. High Resolution Imager Data (HiRID) for Medium-scale Data Utilization Station (MDUS), and Low Rate Transmission Information (LRIT) imagery and WEFAX for Small-scale Data Utilization Station (SDUS). WEFAX service will continue for three years to allow time required for users’ transition from WEFAX to LRIT imagery. WEFAX will be terminated in March 2003.

MTSAT has a function to disseminate HiRID and LRIT imagery (or WEFAX) simultaneously. The LRIT image and WEFAX are disseminated successively. The dissemination schedule of HiRID, LRIT images and WEFAX are shown in Attachment 8-2. All images of special observations as well as regular observations will be disseminated in HiRID. The dissemination of HiRID will begin a few minutes after the observation and finish almost at the same time that the observation ends. Images both regular and special observations will be disseminated in LRIT, but those only regular observations will be disseminated in WEFAX.
Schedule of MTSAT data dissemination (draft)

Japan Meteorological Agency

The draft schedule of HiRID, LRIT images and WEFAX dissemination is shown in Figure 8-2.

This schedule is for the normal operation. Observation time will be changed or observations will be canceled around the eclipse seasons.

This schedule does not include time frames for dissemination of the MANAM (MAnual AMendment) and the Test Pattern. Meteorological data will be disseminated in time frames when WEFAX is not disseminated.

Symbols used in Figure 8-2 are shown as below.

(H) HiRID dissemination

Vnn & HiRID : Full disk image at nnUTC
North & HiRID : Northern hemisphere image at nnUTC
South & HiRID : Southern hemisphere image at nnUTC
(N) : Normal observation
(S) : Special Observation
(W) : Normal observation for wind calculation

(L) LRIT image and WEFAX dissemination

(LRIT image)

Xnn : h, i, w, ii, iii (Normal observation) at nnUTC
Ynn : h, j, w (Normal observation) at nnUTC
Znn : h, i, ii, iii (Special observation) at nnUTC
Z'n'n : h, j (Special observation) at nnUTC
ir disk-nn : Disk image of IR1 (Normal observation) at nnUTC
wv disk-nn : Disk image of IR3 (Normal observation) at nnUTC
h : Polar-stereographic image of IR1 covering East Asia
w : Polar-stereographic image of IR3 covering East Asia
j : Polar-stereographic image of IR4 covering East Asia
i : Polar-stereographic image of VIS covering East Asia
ii : Polar-stereographic image of VIS covering north-east Japan
iii : Polar-stereographic image of VIS covering south-east Japan

(WEFAX)

A,B,C,D-nn : Four-sectorized disk image of IR1 at nnUTC
K,L,M,N-nn : Four-sectorized disk image of IR3 at nnUTC
H-nn : Polar-stereographic image of IR1
       covering East Asia at nnUTC
J-nn : Polar-stereographic enhanced image of IR1
       covering East Asia at nnUTC
I-nn : Polar-stereographic image of VIS
       covering East Asia at nnUTC