



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MDA EarthSat Introduces New Hurricane Index Forecast**

ROCKVILLE, MD—(June 11, 2010) MDA EarthSat has introduced a new product to the Energy Weather and Risk Management industry, their Hurricane Index Forecast that can be used for analysis for trading futures on the CME Group Hurricane Index.

Going beyond the popular Saffir-Simpson scale which uses only the wind speeds of a hurricane to create a forecast, the Hurricane Index Forecast utilizes both the wind speeds and the size of a hurricane in the creation of its forecast. This dual combination allows for a more precise measurement of the potential destruction a storm may produce as it makes landfall. In addition, whereas the Saffir-Simpson scale uses a finite scale of 1-5 to categorize a hurricane, the Hurricane Index Forecast has no finite ending to the extent of their scale. The product projects a probability that the given tropical system will strike one of seven different 'Gates' stretching from Eastport, ME to Brownsville, TX at various points, as well as the Galveston-Mobile Box.

"With the 2010 hurricane season looking to be one of the more active years on record, this new product will help bring valuable insight into the Energy Weather and Risk Management industry. Far too often the industry focuses solely on wind speed but the areal coverage of the storm and the reach of the strongest winds is often ignored. With this new product our users will be better prepared for risk mitigation," says Travis Hartman, Energy Manager of EarthSat Weather.

MDA EarthSat is predicting a season including sixteen tropical storms, eight named storms, and five major hurricanes.

About MDA EarthSat Weather:

EarthSat Weather (<http://www.mdainformationsystems.com>) is the leading consulting group for weather risk and commodity weather support in the world. EarthSat Weather maintains a full short, medium, and long range forecast service, provides special reports on key market-moving concerns, and maintains high levels of communication and 24/7/365 consultation with its worldwide client base. Such key clients are included in the majority of weather risk, energy and agricultural markets. MDA EarthSat Weather is a business area within MDA Information Systems Inc., a provider of essential geospatial data and analysis for decision making

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