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MDA EarthSat Weather Re-Launches Monthly Temperature Discontinuity Reports in Advance of Spring Data Enhancement

GAITHERSBURG, MD—(April 12, 2011) MDA EarthSat Weather today launched a new version of its Monthly Temperature Discontinuity Reports, a complementary service for its Enhanced data service clients. These reports provide scientific analysis each month on potential impacts to temperature sensors used to settle heating and cooling degree day contracts available for trading from the CME Group. "Many people consider temperature readings as a constant, precise, and reliable source of information about the exact temperature at the airport," says Steve Gaddy, MDA EarthSat's Meteorological Data Manager, "but there are many difficulties routinely encountered in recording these data over a long period of time. A small change in the immediate surroundings of the sensor, a change of the sensor itself, or even changes of other nearby equipment, can commonly cause a change of ½ degree or more in readings." While this may not impact whether you decide to grab your winter coat or not, it does have significant impacts on the valuation of degree day contracts. As Gaddy notes, "A ½ degree bias in historical readings (compared with the current sensor) translates into a 15 degree shift in monthly degree days. This can easily turn the tables in favor of the trader applying the enhanced information to his or her analysis."

This re-launched product provides monthly statistical updates, additional analysis, visual information, and scientific insight between semi-annual releases of the full enhanced dataset. The enhanced datasets, available for 200 sites in the United States and additional sites in Europe, Canada, and Asia (including all CME Group traded cities), provide a complete historical dataset corrected for all discontinuities from the start of the recorded data to the present day. The nature of the detection of discontinuities, and the months to years of data required to confirm them, lends itself well to the semi-annual update process. Traders can use the monthly reports, however, to anticipate potential changes, understand the cause and/or statistical evidence behind the changes, and to make their own decision about adjusting their analysis for potential discontinuities not yet confirmed.

About MDA EarthSat Weather:

EarthSat Weather (<http://www.mdafederal.com/wx>) 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 Federal Inc., a provider of essential geospatial data and analysis for decision making

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