Volume 1-2 October 2011

WDTB Dual-Polarization Training News

WDTB Dual-Polarization Radar Training Support

WDTB is committed to providing the support necessary for transitioning Dual-Pol into your office operations. Please contact the WDTB dual-pol training team through our mailing list

dualpol_list@wdtb.noaa.gov

with any questions about course logistics, course content, or interesting data features. We even have one of our staff, Mark Sessing (e-mail: mark.l.sessing@noaa.gov; Phone: 405-325-1091), designated to support you with your staff's course implementation and tracking progress through the NWS Learn Center.

WDTB's Dual-Pol "Care Package"

The dual-polarization upgrade to the WSR-88D is underway. All of the WDTB training materials are ready to go. Now what?

We sent your office this 'packet of goodies' to support your staff's transition to using these new products in forecast and warning decisions. This newsletter briefly summarizes these materials, explains their purpose, and provides some guidance on their use. Remember that the WDTB Dual-Pol Training page

http://www.wdtb.noaa.gov/courses/dualpol/index.html

is our "one stop shop" to help you through the upgrade process along with these dual-pol goodies!

What's in this Box for Me?

This mailing includes several items to support your dual-polarization radar training and reference needs. These items are:

- Two student guides (one for each of the dual-polarization training courses)
- One Dual-Pol WES Exercises DVD
- One Dual-Pol Operations Course Implementation Guide
- Two WSR-88D Dual-Polarization Radar Decision Aids

PUBLISHED BY:

Warning Decision
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http://www.facebook.com/
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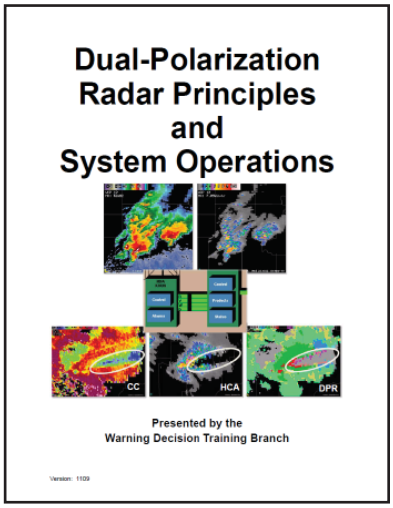
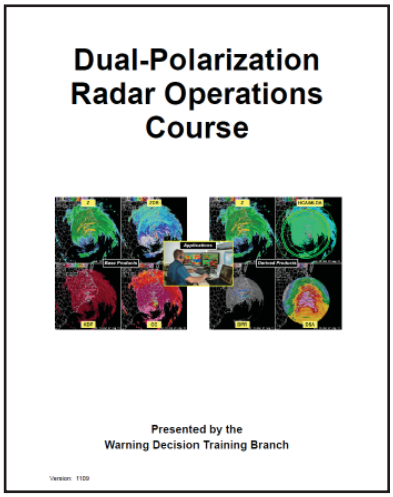
Here's a little more detail about these items.

Item #1: Dual-Polarization Radar Principles and System Operations Course Student Guide



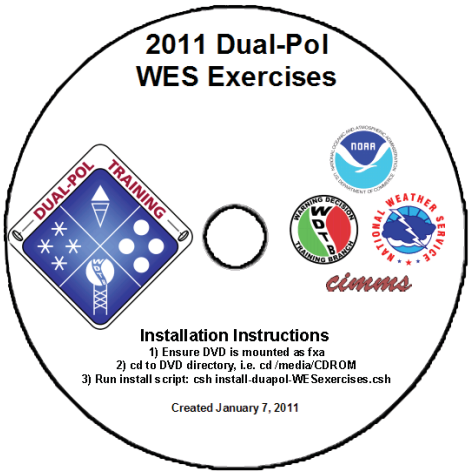
This document is a detailed student guide covering each of the five lessons that constitute the Dual-Polarization Radar Principles and System Operations Course. Examples of RDA-related content include: Dual-Pol base data generation, sensitivity, calibration, attenuation, and non-uniform beam filling. Examples of RPG-related content include: Life without CMD, new Dual-Pol algorithms (strengths & limitations) and new data artifacts on Dual-Pol products. This document is provided to your office as a reference to help your staff review course content off-line.

Item #2: Dual-Polarization Radar Operations Course Student Guide



This document is a detailed student guide covering each of the twelve product and application-related lessons that are part of the Dual-Polarization Radar Operations Course. Examples of product-related content include: Correlation Coefficient, Differential Reflectivity, and Specific Differential Phase. Examples of application-related content include: Winter weather, hail detection, and tornadic debris signatures. This document is provided to your office as a reference to help your staff review course content off-line.

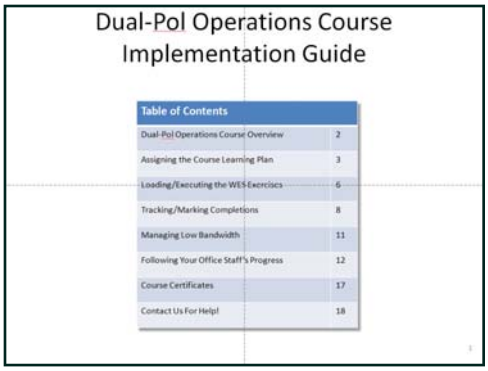
Item #3: Dual-Pol Radar Operations Course WES Exercises DVD



We've received several inquiries from offices who couldn't find the DVD containing the WES Exercises that were mailed out earlier this year. As a result, we've included another copy of the WES Exercises DVD, containing the same material as the previous disk, in this mailing. This DVD includes the data, instructions, and answer sheets needed to complete the four WES exercises that are part of the Dual-Polarization Radar Operations Course. The DVD with the WES exercises is attached to the "Dual-Pol Operations Course Implementation Guide" document.

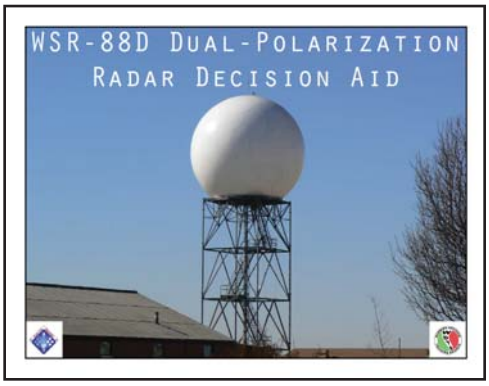
NOTE: These exercises are designed to be viewed in enhanced case review mode (i.e., start_awips). They are not full WES simulations.

Item #4: Dual-Pol Operations Course Implementation Guide



The fourth item in your packet is designed to support you with facilitating these courses with your staff. This is a step by step design that includes all aspects of administering these courses through the NWS Learn Center. For example, we provide the steps for assigning staff members to the development plans for these two courses. Another important example is the process for marking completions for staff members once the two WES exercises are finished.

Item #5: WSR-88D Dual-Polarization Radar Decision Aids



This document is a flip chart designed to help forecasters quickly review representative values for Reflectivity and dual-polarization base data products. The flip chart is organized by hydrometeor type and helps remind forecasters the expected range of values for each of the hydrometeor types. When you are unsure about which type of hydrometeor is present at a particular location and elevation scan, this tool can aid in your interrogation process.

NOTE: We included two copies of this document for your office to use.