

AWIPS Integrated Reference, formerly called Just in Time Training

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The Advanced Weather Information Processing System (AWIPS) is the processing, visualization, and forecast development software package used by the National Weather Service (NWS). AWIPS provides the ability to ingest, display and combine a myriad of different datasets to help forecasters assess the current and future states of the atmosphere. Currently, however if a forecaster needs to consult reference material or training about a meteorological product the forecaster has to move to another completely separate system. An integrated reference system has been developed to link products with available reference materials directly within the AWIPS system. By integrating the reference materials into AWIPS and linking directly to the products forecasters can quickly find training and references on those products without having to move to another system. The integrated reference system is dynamic and flexible by using the help of the Virtual Laboratory (VLab) managed by Meteorological Development Laboratories (MDL). The portion of the reference system that resides in VLab allows training and reference developers to quickly add and update materials as well as easily associate the material with products within the AWIPS system. Once those materials have been added or updated within the VLab system they are instantly available to end-users within AWIPS ensuring forecasters always have the latest in reference material on the system they use to make critical decisions.