

Terminal Area Forecast (TAF)

Station Ident Code
(four letter ICAO)
(Some give Name also)

Forecast Period
Day/Time (UTC)

Wind Direction
(T°)/Kts

Visibility
(M)

Significant Weather
(Rain, Snow, Fog etc)

Cloud Group/Groups

Few = 1/2 Oktas

Sct = 3/4 Oktas

Bkn = 5/7 Oktas

Ovc = 8 Oktas

NB. Cloud Type is Not
given unless CB
or TCU

Probability

(PROB30 or PROB40, often qualified
by Time, W/V, WX, Vis etc)

Change Indicator if required

(Becmg/Tempo/FM etc often qualified by
Time, W/V, Vis etc.)

Common Abbreviations

AT = At

BC = Patches

BR = Mist

BL = Blowing

DR = Drifting

DZ = Drizzle

FG = Fog

FM = From

FU = Smoke

FZ = Freezing/Supercooled

GR = Hail

GS = Small Hail/Snow Pellets

HZ = Haze

MI = Shallow

PO = Dust Devils

RA = Rain

SH = Shower

SN = Snow

SQ = Squall

TL = Until

TS = Thunderstorm

VC = Vicinity

+ = Severe

- = Light

CAVOK

No Cloud of any type below
5000 Feet, Visibility 10 Km+
No CB or any other Wx forecast

SKC or NSC

No cloud of any type, but
Visibility not necessarily 10 Km

NSW

No Significant Weather

Local Area Forecast (LAF)

These are issued for Galway, Sligo,
Kerry, Waterford and Donegal
instead of formal TAFs.

They are a mixture of TAF and Sig
WX terminology when it comes to
abbreviations. Cloud heights are
given above Sea Level unlike the
TAF which state height AGL.

**The most common additional
abbreviations used are:-**

BTW = Between

FRQ = Frequent

HVY = Heavy

ISOL = Isolated

MOD = Moderate

MSL = Mean Sea Level

Note.

The presentation of the TAF may vary slightly from
Country to Country but the differences will be very
obviously self-explanatory.