

Policy on Draft Data

Adopted by PDS Management Council 8-0-1 (A'Hearn abstaining) on 2011-03-30

PDS defines a 'draft' data set to be a data set that, at the time it is received, is expected to be replaced in the near future by an improved data set typically, but not necessarily, due to availability of improved calibrations.

A. Whenever it appears that a data set will be improved in the near future (either repeatedly or as a single event), it can, at the discretion of the cognizant node, be classified as a 'draft' data set. In such cases:

- (1) ARCHIVE_STATUS will be set to the appropriate "DYNAMIC" value (see definition of ARCHIVE_STATUS),
- (2) Version number will be incremented for each new delivery, and
- (3) Notices will be placed on distribution web sites
 - Identifying the data that are being improved
 - Explaining how those data are being improved
 - Providing a link to the unimproved data, if applicable (see below)

The notices on distribution sites may be removed when the data set is complete (no further changes are expected).

B. For minor revisions, documentation of changes is sufficient and retention of old versions is not required. A 'minor' revision includes correction of typographical errors and/or improvements to metadata.

C. For major revisions that have been made to correct serious errors in the data, documentation of changes is sufficient and retention of old versions is not required. Serious errors are those that render the data unfit for use and do not include routine updates such as improvements in calibration, for example.

D. For other revisions:

- (1) Documentation of changes is required,
- (2) Previous versions of the data must be accessible to users for at least six months,