

## Installation Instructions of SPoRT Training Module

This is a Flash based training module created from a set of Power Point slides. Because it is Flash based, it can be viewed over the internet via a web browser that has the Adobe Flash plug-in. However, the Flash file sizes of the individual pages can be too large for efficient playback at NWS WFOs due to the bandwidth between regional head quarters and individual offices. Therefore, it's strongly recommended that a "download" version of the training module be placed on your local system. Viewing the module via the internet, a local drive, and an intranet were tested at a WFO.

Users who have the Flash Player 10 plug-in may need to obtain an updated file to get previously download versions of the module to run. The new Flash Player 10 was not properly recognized by files made with Articulate Presenter 5. This has been corrected and a new file placed on the NASA/SPoRT website. If you have already used the "Flash 10 Updater" from Articulate, you have likely fixed this problem with all of your locally download Presenter files. Some browsers may require you to clear your cache in order to view the updated versions of your presentations.

**If you view the module via the download file**, it should be placed in a single location on a shared drive of the local system or on the intranet. You likely already have a central location that houses much of the WFO training materials, such as items from groups like WTDB, COMET, or VISIT. The intranet option is preferred because it did not require a change to the "Global Security Settings" of the Flash player for each individual user.

### **Download option 1 (Recommended)- For using the local intranet to link to the training module:**

- Place the entire folder and all its sub contents into a directory accessible by the intranet. The sub contents include:
  - data folder
  - player folder
  - launcher.html
  - player.html
- Add a link to the "launcher.html" file from the office training page on your intranet.
  - This will launch the player of the module in the optimal size window as opposed to directly linking to the "player.html" file.
- Depending on the intranet security and individual user security settings, each user may have to allow for pop-ups by either:
  - temporarily allowing pop-ups during the session

or

- adding to your Pop-up Blocker Settings the local intranet site address in the “Allowed Sites:” section

### **Download option 2 - For a shared drive:**

- Place the entire folder and all its sub contents into a shared location. The sub contents include:
  - data folder
  - player folder
  - launcher.html
  - player.html
- Double click on the launcher.html to start
  - This will launch the player of the module in the optimal size window as opposed to directly linking to the “player.html” file.
- While the player will seem to be functioning and you can hear audio from the training module, a window with a warning may appear asking you to go to the Adobe website to change the Global Security Settings. See appendix A for a detailed explanation of why this is necessary (same issue as “download” versions of Flash modules from places like COMET or WDTB)
  - Click the “settings” button in the window which opens a browser to the Adobe site. (Or go to [Global Security Settings Panel](#))
  - Make sure the radio button setting is either “Always ask” or “Always allow”.
  - Click the “Edit locations” pull down within the browser window section showing the “Adobe Flash Player Settings Manager” and the “Global Security Settings” tab
  - Click “Add location”
  - Click “browse folder” to find the folder where the SPoRT module is located and then hit “OK”
- Close the browser and restart the module
- Optional: Check the ActiveX control settings for your browser
  - While there have not been problems with the ActiveX control settings during testing, this is another issue that could arise on some systems. See the tech note in Appendix B taken from the COMET support page regarding this issue if you need help or details.

**If you view it via the web**, either at the WFO or otherwise, you will need to change your pop-up blocker settings to either:

- temporarily allow pop-ups during the session
- or
- add to your Pop-up Blocker Settings “\*.msfc.nasa.gov” in the “Allowed Sites:”

## **APPENDIX A – Adobe Global Security Settings for Flash**

"Enhanced security measures" in Adobe Flash Player Version 8/9 *may* cause problems in local playback of Flash files (this does not affect files launched from a server). Specifically, clicking links that open new windows with JavaScript commands embedded within the Flash file will not open the window or link at all. The same issue applies to "downloads" or CDs from The COMET Program, and likely from WTDB as well. A similar tech note as is found on COMET modules is used here (with minor modification to wording) to describe the issue.

This problem can be solved by making some minor changes to your settings. Please visit the [Adobe support site](#) for an illustrated explanation of how to reconfigure the Flash [Global Security Settings Panel](#) to allow access to whatever drive or filesystem these local (download) versions have been installed. Note: You MUST have an Internet connection to update your Flash settings as this problem can only be corrected while online with the Adobe Website. These problems do NOT occur with Flash Player 7 and earlier and may be related to whether the user has previously modified the default local Flash Player default permissions.

## **APPENDIX B – Active X controls for Internet Explorer 6/7 on Windows XP**

Users of the download versions of web modules using Internet Explorer 6/7 on a PC with Windows XP, Service Pack 2 (and also with Windows Vista) will also need to allow ActiveX controls to run from the local hard disk (wherever you installed the download) or from the CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive from which you are viewing archive discs. SPoRT Web modules use the Adobe Flash Player to enrich your multimedia experience. All browsers except for Internet Explorer use a plug-in for this functionality. Internet Explorer uses ActiveX controls versions of the Flash Player. Due to more stringent security measures implemented by Service Pack 2, most users will get a warning or error message alerting them to the fact that an application is trying to use an ActiveX control from a local disc and is being blocked by default. If you do not allow this access, Flash-based Web modules will not run; however, in a corporate or government computing environment, individual users may not have permission to change this setting unless they have "Administrator" level computer permissions. Individuals in those computing environments should coordinate this activity with management and their IT department. To enable ActiveX controls in files on hard disc and from CD ROM (applies only to computers running Windows XP, Service Pack 2), click "Tools/Internet Options/Advanced" and scroll down to "Security." Click the checkboxes for allowing ActiveX on CD and in files on My Computer (click the Apply and OK buttons, then exit). Please realize that other downloaded software and CD-DVD ROMs could contain "hostile" ActiveX controls that could damage your system so you might prefer to uncheck the checkboxes when viewing html content from other sources.