Preface

IRIS is a powerful weather monitoring, tracking and forecasting system that runs on a variety of hardware and software platforms connected by a network.

IRIS supports several types of user, each having different privileges for viewing products or controlling IRIS features:

- **Operators** are responsible for the daily operation of IRIS. They define and schedule radar TASKS and determine how the radar data is output.
- **Observers** can define radar TASKS and output, but they are not allowed to perform any scheduling. This could interfere with the operation of the radar device.
- **System managers** are responsible for installing and maintaining the IRIS software and the platforms on which it runs. The system manager has special privileges and is responsible for granting access to the users of the system. Special training is recommended in the platform hardware and software, and also in networking.

About This Manual

This manual is organized around the IRIS menus. Each chapter indicates the types of user who can access the menu. You may want to skip the chapters for those menus that you cannot access.

All Users *Chapter 1, Short Introduction to IRIS*

Introduces all users to the IRIS system, its hardware and software, and the concepts on which it is built. A more detailed introduction is in the *IRIS Radar Manual*.

Operators *Chapter NO TAG, Using Irisnet*

Describes how to control and monitor an IRIS network system using the irisnet utility.

Operators *Chapter 2 and 3, Configuring IRIS Products*

Describes how to use the Product Configuration menu to define products, which display the radar data in a variety of ways.

Operators *Chapter 4, Scheduling Products*

Describes how to schedule product generation for fully automatic or manual operation.

All Users *Chapter 5, The Quick Look Window*

Describes how to use the Quick Look Window, which provides easy access to IRIS products for forecasting and analysis applications.

All Users *Chapter 6, Requesting Product Output*

Describes how to direct products and optional overlays to a display, printer, storage medium, other computer or communications port using the Product Output menu.

Operators *Chapter 7, Performing Archive Operations*

Describes how to record products to tape or optical disk and retrieve them back to disk using the Archive menu. In addition, it describes other basic archive operations, such as mounting and dismounting, loading and initializing the tape or optical disks.

Operators *Chapter 8, Managing Ingest Files*

Describes how to use the Ingest Summary menu to keep track of ingest files stored on disk and how to convert raw ingest data into ingest files.

All Users *Chapter 9, Choosing Overlay Files*

Describes how to pick an overlay file, such as a geopolitical map or grid, to display on top of other IRIS products.

All Users *Chapter NO TAG, Handling Errors*

Describes how IRIS displays messages when errors occur, how to access the messages in the Message List menu, and how to handle some common problems.

All Users *Appendix A, Glossary of IRIS Terms and Abbreviations*

Defines common terms and abbreviations used by IRIS.

Operators *Appendix B, IRIS Configuration Example*

Describes two comprehensive examples of IRIS configurations — one to perform general weather monitoring, the other to detect and alert users of wind shear events.

Operators *Appendix C, Radial Velocity Correction*

Describes the theory and application of radial velocity correction.

Operators *Appendix D, IRIS 3D*

Describes how to install and use the optional 3D display features of IRIS.

Operators *Appendix E, IRIS TDWR*

Describes how to configure IRIS to support TDWR airport features.

Operators *Appendix F, Hydromet Raingage Corrections*

Describes how to configure and use the optional Hydromet features of IRIS.

Where to Find More Information

The following books are also available from SIGMET, Inc.:

IRIS Radar Manual	Describes IRIS/Radar software. This manual is for radar operators.
IRIS Installation Manual	Describes the procedures for installing IRIS and the specific hardware and software configuration for your facility. This manual is for system managers, operators and maintenance engineers.
IRIS Utilities Manual	Describes the utility programs for system alignment, calibration, installation and testing.
IRIS Programmer's Manual	Describes the data formats and library routines used by IRIS. This manual is for programmers who want to access IRIS data or interface to IRIS processes. This manual also describes the User Product Insert feature, which lets programmers define new IRIS product types.
The Signal Processor User's Manual	Provides technical information on the signal processor (RVP6 or RVP7). This manual is used primarily by engineers for troubleshooting or by users interested in understanding the signal processing features, algorithms, processor control and data formats.
The RCP02 User's Manual	Describes the installation, operation, and technical details of the Radar Control Processor. The RCP02 is an interface between the IRIS software and miscellaneous hardware such as the antenna and transmitter.

You can download the latest versions of the manuals from SIGMET website, http://www.sigmet.com They can be read online using **Acroread**™ viewer by Adobe™. , which is installed with IRIS.

SIGMET, Inc. encourages you to send your comments and/or corrections to:

SIGMET, Inc.
2 Park Drive, Suite 1
Westford, Massachusetts 01886
USA
FAX (978)692-9575
EMAIL support@sigmet.com

Documentation Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this manual:

Menu–>Choice	Pull-down menu selections are shown in boldface type. The name of the menu is shown first, with an arrow pointing to the menu entry that you should choose. To pull down a menu, position the mouse cursor over the menu bar and press the left mouse button.
–>Choice	Pop-up menu choices are shown in boldface type, with the arrow pointing to the menu choice that you should make. Pop-up menus are position-dependent. That is, the menu that appears depends on the position of the mouse cursor over a particular field. The text tells you were to position the mouse. To pop up a menu, press the right mouse button.
"Field Value"	Quotation marks surround the value of a field, such as a status value or the name of a configuration file.
$	The dollar sign is used to show the operating system prompt, though it may differ from one system to the next.
`command` ***`parameter`***	Command syntax is printed in bold, monospace type. User-supplied parameters are shown in italics. Enter the command exactly as it is shown and supply the appropriate parameter value.
	This margin icon indicates a note that may be of interest to the reader.
	This margin icon indicates a note that is important to the reader.
	This margin icon indicates a caution or warning to the reader.