

# 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.

There are four types of IRIS licences.

- **IRIS Radar** runs at the radar site, controls the measurement and packs the measured values to files.
- **IRIS Analysis** runs typically on a separate computer, it reads the files created by IRIS Radar and processes the polar volume measurement to various different products, and sends these to displays or Archives.
- **IRIS Display** lets the user to see the IRIS products on Quick Look Window, zoom, create animations and cross sections, and control other display options.
- **IRIS Full** Licence allows the user to perform all the above mentioned processes on one computer.

## About This Manual

This manual is for **IRIS Radar**. It 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.

In the end, you find a short summary or checklist about Products and Displays. The summary is written to include as much information about these as is typically needed at the radar site. You can read much more about products and displays in the *IRIS Product & Display Manual*.

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| <b>All Users</b> | <i>Chapter 1, Introduction to IRIS</i><br>Introduces all users to the IRIS system, its hardware and software, and the concepts on which it is built. It provides an overview of the IRIS menus and describes how to perform basic menu operations. |
| <b>All Users</b> | <i>Chapter 2, Running IRIS Menus</i><br>Describes how to start the client menus, how to use the IRIS menu bar, and how to performs those operations that are common to all the IRIS menus.   |
| <b>Operators</b> | <i>Chapter 4, Controlling and Monitoring IRIS</i><br>Describes how to control and monitor the IRIS system using the Radar Status menu.   |
| <b>All Users</b> | <i>Chapter 5, Handling Errors</i><br>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.  |
| <b>Operators</b> | <i>Chapter 6, Configuring Radar TASKS</i><br>Describes how to use the TASK Configuration menu to define radar TASKS — the operating parameters for the radar antenna, transmitter, receiver and signal processing system.                          |
| <b>Operators</b> | <i>Chapter 7, Scheduling Radar TASKS</i><br>Describes how to schedule and run radar TASKS using the TASK Scheduler menu.   |
| <b>All Users</b> | <i>Appendix A, Glossary of IRIS Terms and Abbreviations</i><br>Defines common terms and abbreviations used by IRIS.  |
| <b>Operators</b> | <i>Appendix B, IRIS Configuration Example</i><br>Describes two comprehensive examples of IRIS configurations — one to perform general weather monitoring, the other to detect and alert users of wind shear events.                                |

## Where to Find More Information

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

<b><i>IRIS Product &amp; Display Manual</i></b>	Describes the various IRIS products, their configuration and scheduling. Also the use of Quick Look Window: How you can see the IRIS products with all the options
<b><i>Software Installation Manual</i></b>	Describes the procedures for installing Sigmet software such as IRIS and RDA. This manual is for system managers, operators and maintenance engineers.
<b><i>IRIS/RDA Utilities Manual</i></b>	Describes the utility programs for system alignment, calibration, installation and testing.
<b><i>IRIS Programmer's Manual</i></b>	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.
<b><i>The Signal Processor User's Manual</i></b>	Provides technical information on the signal processor (RVP7 or RVP8). 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.
<b><i>The RCP8 User's Manual</i></b>	Describes the installation, operation, and technical details of the Radar Control Processor. The RCP8 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:

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## Documentation Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this manual:

<b>Menu-&gt;Choice</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>To pull down a menu, position the mouse cursor over the menu bar and press the left mouse button.</p>
<b>-&gt;Choice</b>	<p>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 where to position the mouse.</p> <p>To pop up a menu, press the right mouse button.</p>
<b>“Field Value”</b>	<p>Quotation marks surround the value of a field, such as a status value or the name of a configuration file.</p>
<b>\$</b>	<p>The dollar sign is used to show the operating system prompt, though it may differ from one system to the next.</p>
<b>command parameter</b>	<p>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.</p>
	<p>This margin icon indicates a note that may be of interest to the reader.</p>
	<p>This margin icon indicates a note that is important to the reader.</p>
	<p>This margin icon indicates a caution or warning to the reader.</p>