

Hurricane Andrew and FSAS

OCTOBER 1992

The Printed Circuit

FSAS Technical Services Personnel Assist During and After Hurricane Andrew

By George Krell

Technical Services personnel temporarily assigned to Miami, Florida, assisted our customer by operating the Flight Services Data Processing System during the storm and then helped with the hardware evaluation process after Hurricane Andrew devastated the South Miami area.

Technical Services normally deploys teams of engineers and operators after E-Systems FSAS personnel complete installation of E-Systems Model 1 Full Capacity equipment at various FAA locations. Technical Services E-Teamers were assigned to the Miami facility on Monday, August 17, 1992. During the same period E-Systems FSAS personnel were completing the installation and sale at the Miami and the Tamiami Airport facilities on Friday, August 21, 1992. On Monday, August 24, 1992, during the mid-shift, all Technical Services personnel were on duty at the Miami facility. Maintaining system operations and communications with all remote facilities was and is their primary responsibility to the FAA. At 5:03 a.m., communication with the Tamiami facility was lost. Facility main power was also lost. Backup generators came on-line but proved to be insufficient to run all the equipment and the air conditioning. Subsequently, the Model 1 Full Capacity had to be shut down to conserve power.

On Tuesday, August, 25 1992, members from Technical Services were dispatched to survey the damage at the Tamiami facility to evaluate the condition of the recently installed hardware and report their findings to Garland. E-Teamers videotaped the site damage and sent the video to Garland for additional study. There was considerable damage to the facility; roof sections were missing, windows were blown out, ceiling tiles saturated with salt spray had fallen onto the equipment, and keyboards and printers were saturated with water. In the equipment room where the newly installed processors were located, water was visible inside the equipment cabinets. Since that time, all equipment has been removed to a holding area in another building.

Thankfully, these E-Teamers did not suffer significant personal losses due to the storm. We salute their dedication and effectiveness in continuing to demonstrate the E-Systems "can do" spirit to our customer while serving under adverse circumstances.



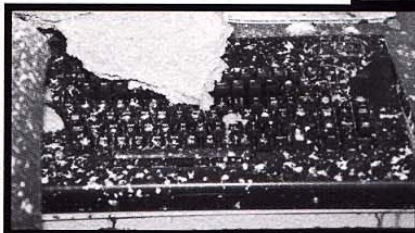
Federal Aviation Administration, Miami Automated Flight Service Station (AFSS) at Tamiami Airport.

FAA Administrative offices at the Miami AFSS.



FAA Specialists' Positions (workstations) in the Operations Room.

One of 81 E-Systems installed FAA Specialists' Positions (workstation).



One of many E-Systems keyboards installed in the Operations Room were found saturated with saltwater spray.

Cessna 172 aircraft



FSAS 1982



FSAS 1983



FSAS Tech Center Crew



IDSD Group January 2009

