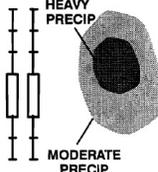
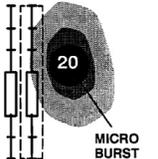


from ATC. The NAS has long been in need of a means of delivering terminal weather information to the cockpit more efficiently in terms of both speed and accuracy to enhance pilot awareness of weather hazards and reduce air traffic controller workload. With the TWIP capability, terminal weather information, both alphanumerically and graphically, is now available directly to the cockpit for 46 airports in the U.S. NAS. (See FIG 7-1-21.)

**FIG 7-1-21
TWIP Image of Convective Weather at MCO International**

WEATHER SITUATION	TWIP TEXT MESSAGE
 <p>HEAVY PRECIP</p> <p>MODERATE PRECIP</p>	<p>MCO 1800 TERMINAL WEATHER -STORM(S) 3NM N-E MOD PRECIP 4NM NE HVY PRECIP MOVG W AT 15KT .EXPECTED MOD PRECIP BEGIN 1805</p>
 <p>20</p> <p>MICRO BURST</p>	<p>MCO 1810 TERMINAL WEATHER *MODERATE PRECIP BEGAN 1805 -STORM(S) ARPT ALQDS MOD PRECIP 1NM N-E HVY PRECIP MOVG W AT 15KT .EXPECTED HVY PRECIP BEGIN 1815</p>

(b) TWIP products are generated using weather data from the TDWR or the Integrated Terminal Weather System (ITWS). These products can then be accessed by pilots using the Aircraft Communications Addressing and Reporting System (ACARS) data link services. Airline dispatchers can also access this database and send messages to specific aircraft whenever wind shear activity begins or ends at an airport.

(c) TWIP products include descriptions and character graphics of microburst alerts, wind shear alerts, significant precipitation, convective activity within 30 NM surrounding the terminal area, and expected weather that will impact airport operations. During inclement weather, i.e., whenever a predetermined level of precipitation or wind shear is detected within 15 miles of the terminal area, TWIP products are updated once each minute for text messages and once every five minutes for character graphic messages. During good weather (below the predetermined precipitation or wind shear parameters) each message is updated every 10 minutes. These products are intended to improve the situational awareness of the pilot/flight crew, and to aid in flight planning prior to arriving or departing the terminal area. It is important to understand that, in the context of TWIP, the predetermined levels for inclement versus good weather has nothing to do with the criteria for VFR/MVFR/IFR/LIFR; it only deals with precipitation, wind shears and microbursts.