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A Review of the IPWG Validation Program and Results over the U.S

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The International Precipitation Working Group (IPWG) was established as a permanent Working Group of the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) in June 2001. The IPWG is co-sponsored by CGMS and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and focuses the scientific community on operational and research satellite based quantitative precipitation measurement issues and challenges. It provides a forum for operational and research users of satellite precipitation measurements to exchange information on methods for measuring precipitation and the impact of space borne precipitation measurements in numerical weather and hydrometeorological prediction and climate studies. To that end, the IPWG established a program to validate remotely-sensed precipitation estimates and model forecasts of precipitation in 2003. At the present time, validation of satellite precipitation analyses and numerical model precipitation forecasts are being conducted under IPWG guidance over five domains: Australia, Japan, South America, United Kingdom, and the United States. Each of these validation efforts is conducted for daily amounts and over each domain as a whole; that is, statistics are produced each day for daily precipitation totals for the nation, or continent in the case of South America. This presentation will provide an overview of the IPWG validation program and will provide some specific validation results over the United States.

Keywords: precipitation, validation, satellite precipitation estimates