

Weather File Uploads

Introduction

While HelioScope has a number of weather sources included, users also have the option to upload custom weather files in the weather file library: <https://www.helioscope.com/library/meteo/upload>

The HelioScope weather file loader can support a variety of file formats, corresponding to the weather sources already supported in HelioScope (EPW, TMY2, TMY3, and Prospector). These new files will typically be downloaded directly from a third-party source, or can be created/edited by a user (especially if the original weather data is not already in a supported format).

Best practices for uploading weather files

If editing a weather file, do so with simple text editors such as Sublime Text, Text Editor, or Notepad. Editing files with Excel, Microsoft Word, or other programs that are not explicitly text editors will create additional formatting that renders the files unreadable by the HelioScope uploader. Custom weather sources must also have exactly 8760 rows, i.e. hourly values for a non-leap-year. Finally, note that the file extension must

Source	File extension
TMY3 (Typical Meteorological Year)	.csv
TMY2 (Typical Meteorological Year)	.tmy2
Energy Plus Worldwide (EPW)	.epw
Zipped EPW	.zip
Solar Prospector	.csv
Compressed Prospector	.csv.gz

EPW Formatting

EPW files will be downloaded in EPW format, and can be directly uploaded to HelioScope. When editing the file, the user should still use a simple text editor to avoid creating formatting that breaks the uploader.

TMY2 Formatting

UNIX: TMY2 UNIX files (.tm2) will be downloaded in a zipped format (.Z). To upload these files to HelioScope, the user must first unzip the files. The unzipped file (with .tmy2 extension) can directly upload to HelioScope.
MAC: TMY2 MAC files will be downloaded in a zipped format (.hqx). Once unzipped, these files will be extracted to another zipped format (.sit). This filetype requires Stuffit Expander. Once unzipped, the new file should have a .tmy2 extension.

TMY3 Formatting

TMY3 files will be downloaded in CSV format, which can be directly uploaded to HelioScope. When editing the file, the user should still use a simple text editor to avoid creating formatting that breaks the uploader.

Sample weather files can be provided upon request, contact support@folsomlabs.com for these files.