The following information serves as a definition of each field in one line of data covering one station-day. Each field described below is separated by a comma (,) and follows the order presented in this document.

ID = 11 character station identification code

YEAR/MONTH/DAY = 8 character date in YYYYMMDD format (e.g. 19860529 = May 29, 1986)

ELEMENT = 4 character indicator of element type

DATA VALUE = 5 character data value for ELEMENT

M-FLAG = 1 character Measurement Flag

Q-FLAG = 1 character Quality Flag

S-FLAG = 1 character Source Flag

OBS-TIME = 4-character time of observation in hour-minute format (i.e. 0700 =7:00 am)

See section III of the GHCN-Daily readme.txt file for an explanation of ELEMENT codes and their units as well as the M-FLAG, Q-FLAGS and S-FLAGS.

The OBS-TIME field is populated with the observation times contained in NOAA/NCDC's Multinetwork Metadata System (MMS).