

CGMS-XXIX EUM-WP-07/08
Prepared by EUMETSAT
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STATUS AND PROBLEMS OF THE IDCS

This document reports on the performance of the International Data Collection System (IDCS) and reviews the current status of the IDCS Users Guide.

CGMS Members are invited to take note.

STATUS AND PROBLEMS OF THE IDCS

1 INTRODUCTION

This combined document presents a status report on the performance of the International Data Collection System (IDCS) and reviews the current status of the IDCS Users Guide.

2 STATUS OF IDCS

Currently around 636 International DCP (IDCP) are registered worldwide for use with the IDCS, using 19 of the 33 available channels (see below). Of these, 20 are Aeronet DCP operating on channels I23-I24 and 170 are "Regional" DCP belonging to WMO agro-meteorological and hydro-meteorological networks and operating on channels I27-I33.

Globally, the total number of IDCP operating on individual IDCS channels is:

Channel	06	07	10	12	13	14	15	16	18	20	23	24	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
No. IDCP	113	119	10	35	6	39	52	39	21	12	10	10	41	22	12	31	31	14	19

During July 2001, EUMETSAT processed around 17,374 messages from 50 IDCP operating on channels I6 – I20 (in the Meteosat field of view). In addition, there were 22,291 Aeronet messages and 14,648 WMO network messages.

It will be recalled that channels I23-I24 (Aeronet), I27-I33 (WMO networks) and I25-I26 (shortly to be operated by Planeta/Roshydromet) are being used within the Meteosat IDCS, on a temporary basis, with the special agreement of CGMS, until such time that all these DCPs can be transferred to the MSG Data Collection and Retransmission Service (expected early 2003).

3 INTERFERENCE TO THE IDCS

Because of preparations for the MSG programme, there is currently only partial monitoring of the IDCS channels by EUMETSAT, however, during the last twelve months the levels of interference affecting users of IDCS channels within the Meteosat telecommunications field of view has been relatively low. However, some interference to channel I12 has resulted in the transfer of a few ASAP users to channel I10.

4 CONSOLIDATED LIST OF IDCS ALLOCATIONS

Once again, there have been very few new allocations of DCP within the on-line listing of IDCS allocations (www.eumetsat.de/idcs/) during the last year. At the present time the following Members have read/write access: EUMETSAT, Japan and USA. WMO has read-only access for system monitoring purposes. CGMS Members may access this database at any time and the CGMS Secretariat (EUMETSAT) is responsible for keeping the database up to date.

5 DCP DATA ACCESS USING THE MISSION DATA RECEPTION SYSTEM

The EUMETSAT Mission Data Reception System (MDRS) allows registered DCP operators to view and download their DCP messages from the EUMETSAT Web site. Various system performance parameters are also provided through this system. Access to the system is via a link on the Web site and operators first have to register with EUMETSAT so that they can be provided with a user name and password.

6 IDCS USERS GUIDE

CGMS will recall that copies of the current issue (8) of this document (reference CGMS02) can be requested from EUMETSAT (the downloadable version has been temporarily removed pending the current update process).

In the meantime, EUMETSAT has updated Annexes 4 and 6 of the document to reflect changes in its DCP certification procedure.

In addition, and in order to bring the certification procedure into line with requirements resulting from the eventual transition of the Data Collection and Retransmission Service to the MSG satellite system, EUMETSAT brought two changes to DCP performance parameters to the attention of CGMS, via email, on 11 July 2001, namely:

- A closer tolerance on transmit carrier frequency stability, from 1.75 parts per million down to 0.75 parts per million;
- A closer tolerance on the drift from allocated frequency window, from 600 Hz down to 300 Hz.

The Secretariat also proposed that allocation/de-allocation messages make use of email rather than telex.

All the above modifications were included within a draft revised document (to eventually become Issue 9) which was distributed to CGMS for comment/correction/update with the above email in July 2001. CGMS was invited to return their comments and modifications to the Secretariat (for the attention of Mr. Gordon Bridge at bridge@eumetsat.de) by 2 September 2001.

Furthermore, it is proposed that if there are any unresolved matters resulting from the above changes in DCP performance parameters, then they should be forwarded for the immediate attention of CGMS XXIX WG I – Telecommunications, so that a finalized version of Issue 9 of the document can be posted on the Web as soon as possible after CGMS XXIX.

7 CONCLUSION

CGMS Members are invited to take note of the status and performance of the IDCS and the ongoing update process for the IDCS Users Guide.